

NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 25, 2018, Tracy Hall

Regular Meeting

Members Present: Goodrich, Allen, Lubell, Brink, Horwitz, Thoms

Members Absent: Brien **Clerk:** Phil Dechert

Others: Linda Cook, Linda Gray, Colin Calloway, Marcia Calloway

Jeff Goodrich, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

1. **Approve Agenda** – Approved
2. **Meeting Topics and Goals**
 - a. Energy Committee Recommendation Request
 - b. Selectboard Hearings
 - c. Affordable Housing Listening Sessions
3. **Comments from the Public** - None
4. **Minutes** – 1-11-18 – Approved with change to 5.a.i. Add “Goodrich proposed alternate resolution”.
5. **Announcements, Reports, Updates & Correspondence**
 - a. Correspondence
 - i. Email from Linda Gray of the Energy Committee 1-14-18 re: Recommendation to Selectboard on VT Climate Pledge Coalition with Memorandum and Resolution. Gray explained that the memorandum would come from the Energy Committee but will indicate support from the Conservation Commission and Planning Commission. The Commission agreed to this arrangement by consensus.
 - ii. Email from Christopher Katucki 1-22-18 re: Town Plan – Telecommunications and Broadband [8-7]. Due to changes in the technology and statutes this section should be updated to ensure the town has a more effective role in reviewing and commenting on Norwich applications for proposed telecommunication projects being heard by the Vermont Public Utility Commission. Dechert will prepare a draft reviewed by Katucki for a future meeting.
 - iii. Letter from Ernie Ciccotelli 1-20-18 re: Town Plan – Received
 - b. Meetings – There was a discussion on negative public comments and distrust on list-serve and at meetings.
6. **Updates**

Selectboard Town Plan Hearings on 1-20-18 and 1-23-18 discussed:

 - a. Attendees reported support for Town Plan with affordable housing an issue at both Tuesday and Saturday Hearings, some in favor and some against.
 - b. Request for one page document on costs and lost opportunity of no Town Plan.
 - c. The Town Plan will not be on warning on March Ballot

7. Affordable Housing Listening Sessions

Discussion continued on the following topics:

- a. Hearing more from public
- b. AH Strategy
- c. Public notes from sessions
- d. Collect comments
- e. Transparent
- f. How many? Format?
- g. Meetings on specific sub-topics (example: Accessory Dwelling Units)

8. Other Business

- a. Dechert is retiring April 30, 2018

9. Future Meeting Schedule & Agendas

- a. Next Meeting – February 8, 2018
- b. Lubell will prepare a strategy for Affordable Housing Concept
- c. Update on TRORC re: Town Plan benefits v. opportunity costs
- d. Update on Telecommunications and Broadband in Town Plan

10. Public Comment

- a. Colin Calloway stated he is profoundly concerned about how zoning will affect his house.

Adjournment – 8:31 PM

Phil Dechert, Clerk

APPROVED 3-8-18

Future Meetings:

- Thursday, February 8, 2018 – Regular Meeting
- Thursday, February 22, 2018 – Regular Meeting

Planning Commission Agendas & Minutes available at: <http://norwich.vt.us/planning-commission/>