

NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 26, 2018, Tracy Hall

Regular Meeting

Members Present: Brink, Thoms, Horwitz (Phone), Allen, Brien

Members Absent: Goodrich, Lubell **Clerk:** Phil Dechert

Others: Linda Cook

Susan Brink, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

1. Approve Agenda

Agenda was approved with Item #6 - Affordable Housing Listening Sessions discussion deferred until next meeting when Lubell is present. Scheduling will be discussed.

2. Comments from the Public - None

3. Minutes – 4-12-18 – Approved without changes

4. Announcements, Reports, Updates & Correspondence

a. Updates

- i. Planning Director Search – Applications will be reviewed next week by the Town Manager and review committee.
- ii. Norwich Fire District Solar Project – A support letter for *Preferred Siting Designation under Rule 5.100* was approved by Selectboard on 4/25/18 and will be sent to the Public Utilities Commission with Planning Commission, Energy Committee, and Selectboard endorsements.
- iii. Planning Commission Bylaws – A revised “Planning Commission Bylaw” adopted 4-12-18 was distributed along with copies of the Open Meeting Law and Conflict of Interest Policy.
- iv. Selectboard Town Plan Review Status - A subcommittee is reviewing the current draft and will make recommendations to the full Board. A draft subcommittee report dated 4-20-18 was circulated at the PC meeting.

5. Affordable Housing Listening Sessions

- a. 3 PM Saturday, May 5, at Marion Cross School Multi-Purpose Room
- b. 6:30 PM Thursday, May 10 at Tracy Hall Multi-Purpose Meeting Room
- c. Notices will be on Listserv, Town Email List, Bulletin Boards, Sandwich Board

6. Zoning Regulations Amendment Plan

- a. “Status of Zoning Regulation Amendments on 4-26-18” was distributed. The major change is the draft revisions combining Section 2.7 – Flood Hazard Overlay District- with Sections 2.8 Shoreline Overlay - into Flood Hazard and River Corridor Overlay District. based on the latest VT DEC Model Ordinance.
- b. Some major updates are still needed in the Sign Regulation section and the Administrative and Enforcement Section.

7. Planning Commission Long Range Projects

- a. Town Plan Adoption
 - i. Support Selectboard Review,
 - ii. Final PC Review, and
 - iii. Implementation Programs
- b. Zoning Regulation Update
 - i. Need Updates - Last Revision – 2009
 - 1. Sign Regulations to comply with SCOTUS *Reed v. Town of Gilbert*
 - 2. 4.13 Telecommunication – Incorporate Section 248 changes
 - 3. Article VI – Administration and Enforcement – Not reviewed yet
- c. Subdivision Regulation Update
 - i. Very few changes – Last Revision – 2013
- d. Affordable Housing Program

8. Future Meeting Schedule & Agendas

- a. Saturday, May 5, 2018 – 3 PM Housing Affordability Listening Session
- b. Thursday, May 10, 2018 – 6:30 PM Housing Affordability Listening Session and Regular meeting

9. Comments from the Public - None

Adjournment – 7:20 PM

Phil Dechert, Clerk

APPROVED 5-10-18

Future Meetings:

- Thursday, May 10, 2018 – Regular Meeting @ 6:30 PM
- Thursday, May 24, 2018 – Regular Meeting @ 6:30 PM

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