

**NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

Thursday, September 26, 2019, 7:00PM
Tracy Hall-Meeting Room

Members Present: Jaci Allen (Chair), Melissa Horwitz (Vice Chair), Brian Loeb, Susan Brink, Ernie Ciccotelli, Jeff Lubell

Members not Present: Jeff Goodrich, Leah Romano

Public: Linda Cook, Linda Gray, Robert Gere, Lynnwood Andrews, Jack Cushman, Margery Cantor

Staff: Rod Francis

Jaci Allen (Chair), called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

- 1) Approve Agenda: Loeb moved and Brink seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5 — 0
- 2) Meeting Objectives:
 1. Discuss Postcard Survey
 2. Discuss Town Plan chapters and next steps
- 3) Comments from the Public: None
- 4) Discuss Postcard Survey, Public Event Feedback and next steps
 1. Allen presented a summary of the Postcard Survey. There were 281 responses to a self-addressed postcard with postage stamp affixed distributed with the last quarter tax bills. Most responses were coded by relevant chapter headings in the town plan underway. The purpose of the survey was to gather input on town priorities and to help inform the Planning Commission work on the town plan. The three top responses were: taxes, housing and land use.
 2. Lubell reported out on the Housing Strategy public session, held on September 12. More than a dozen members of the public came together to discuss the document, and challenges people encounter in securing affordable, appropriate housing. The Housing Strategy document informs much of the Housing chapter of the town plan and will be an appendix to the plan.
 3. Allen outlined the Zoning 101 public session held on September 18, attended by roughly a dozen members of the public. Topics covered included current development permit procedures, the threshold for obtaining an Act 250 permit, the role of Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) in Act 250 proceedings and the current Norwich zoning districts.
 4. Allen discussed the coming months scheduled events.
- 5) Draft Town Plan Chapters
Commissioners and the public provided comments on Housing, Transportation, Economic Development, Energy and Community Facilities and Services chapters.
- 6) Review and approve Minutes 8-29-19
Brink moved and Loeb seconded a motion to approve the minutes of 8-29-2019. Motion carried 5 — 0
- 7) Discuss draft of Selectboard Quarterly Report
Allen asked Commissioners to provide any comments via email by no later than Monday September 30.

- 8) Announcements, Reports, Updates & Correspondence
- Correspondence: Email from S Richards re estimates for the cost of connecting the Marion Cross School (MCS) to the Hartford wastewater treatment plant via forced main.
 - Announcements: Jeff Lubell will be a part of the team that prepares a study of housing in the Upper Valley, an initiative of TRORC and Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC)
 - Updates: The TRORC Regional Plan will have another public hearing, currently scheduled for October 30 to address towns' concerns with regard to land use areas.
- 9) Other Business
- A. Number of PC Members:
Lubell moved and Brink seconded that the PC should consist of seven (7) members. And that this number be achieved via a process of natural attrition. Motion failed 3 —2 (A quorum of voting members = 5; see bylaws)
- B. Statewide Climate Resolution presented by the Energy Committee (see packets for text).
Loeb moved and Ciccotelli seconded a motion that the Planning Commission supports the Energy Committee's efforts to have the resolution (as drafted) adopted by the Selectboard. And that our support for the resolution be conveyed to the Selectboard. Motion carried 5 — 0
- 10) Future Meeting Schedule & Agendas
For October 24 Agenda
- Event feedback
 - Draft chapters for review:
 - Land Use,
 - Resilience

Meeting Adjourned 9:45pm

APPROVED 10-24-19

Future Meetings:

Thursday, Oct 24, 7pm Regular Meeting
Thursday, Nov 14, 7pm Regular Meeting*
Thursday, Dec 12, 7pm Regular Meeting*
Thursday, Jan 9, 7pm Regular Meeting*

*Note: Adjusted holiday schedule dates