

NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION
Tuesday August 10, 2021, 6:30pm

MINUTES

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89339717735>
Meeting ID: 893 3971 7735

Physical meeting location: multi-purpose room, Tracy Hall

Members Present: Jaci Allen, Brian Loeb, Jeff Lubell, Leah Romano, Melissa Horwitz, Jeff Goodrich,
Ernie Ciccotelli
Public Present: Linda Cook, David Forbes
Staff: Rod Francis

Meeting Opened: 6:32pm

1. Approve Agenda:

Horwitz moved and Loeb seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried 6 – 0. For: Allen, Loeb, Romano, Horwitz, Ciccotelli, Goodrich.

2. Public Comment: Goodrich asked to be identified as a member of the public. Once recognized he remarked that he observed a pattern in Norwich with regard to retention of Town Managers, and that he was not sure the explanation lay with the conduct of the managers.

3. Discussion with David Forbes, Chair of Thetford Planning Commission:

Lubell introduced David Forbes Chair of the Thetford Planning Commission, to discuss issues of common interest and concern. Forbes outlined the recent work of the Thetford Planning Commission which included the town plan (adopted September 2020), subdivision and special flood hazard area regulations. Thetford planning commission intends to continue work on revisions to the zoning regulations. Discussion ranged across housing supply and affordability, wastewater regulation and its role in housing access, potable water supply and how to facilitate green energy usage.

4. Announcements, Reports, Updates & Correspondence:

Allen thanked Loeb for the Childcare Committee Interim Report. Francis informed the meeting that Joanna Whitcomb, Dartmouth College Planner will present the latest Master Plan developed for the College at the September meeting.

5. Planning Commission By-laws:

Loeb introduced a track changes document that reflected comments and suggestions from commissioners at the previous meeting and some removal of possibly redundant language. Commissioners discussed the suggested changes. A key change in the circulated draft was to make clear that before any one member speaks on behalf of the commission a vote of the commission authorizing the action will be needed. Commissioners discussed the suggested changes. The document will be further revised and brought back to the next meeting.

6. Training on Zoning Regs:

Francis presented a document outlining the role of land use regulations in development, the statutory authority to regulate land development in Vermont and the current zoning districts present in Norwich. Commissioners posed questions in response.

7. Approve Minutes of July 13, 2021:

Loeb moved and Ciccotelli seconded a motion to approve the minutes of July 13, 2021. Motion carried 6 – 0. For: Allen, Loeb, Lubell, Romano, Horwitz, Ciccotelli.

8. Other Business: none

9. Future Meeting Schedule & Agendas:

- Joanna Whitcomb, Dartmouth College Master Plan
- Updates from point people (Ciccotelli – Energy; Horwitz – Conservation and Lubell – Affordable Housing)

10. Comments from the Public: none

11. Adjourn

Romano moved and Ciccotelli seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 5 – 0. For: Allen, Loeb, Lubell, Romano, Horwitz, Ciccotelli.

Meeting adjourned: 8:38pm

Future Meetings:

Tuesday, September 14, 6:30pm Regular Meeting
Tuesday October 12, 6:30pm Regular Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Rod Francis

APPROVED 09-14-2021