



TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

Planning Commission
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
Tuesday 10/15/2024
7:00pm Meeting

St.J. Welcome Center and Zoom

Minutes

Confirm Quorum of Members Present:

Jim Brown, Chair Ben Copans, Vice chair Larry Dolan, Secretary Ben Deede Open

Others attending: Matt Walsh, Deb Dolgin

Planning Commission meeting

1. Open Meeting. 7:04
2. Agenda changes. None.
3. Public Comment. None.
4. Approval of Minutes from 09/17/2024. Ben C. motion, Ben D. 2nd. Motion passed.
5. Town plan. Continued work on form and topics. Begin draft writing of vision, mission statement, intro to TP2025 including topics and priorities, maintaining topics from TP2017. Provide more details on topics. Discuss timetable. Next PC meeting plans.

PC committed to 2 meetings/month. 1st Monday is a working session. Get vision, mission statement, intro to TP2025 done first. Work on topics. Chad and Joe will be contributing to: 1. Public Safety, 2. Housing (Housing Committee), 3. Utilities, 4. Infrastructure, 5. Storm water. Look at 2020 census data. Check on VT Futures for more data. Discussed diversity of housing. Low income and market rate. Matt sent a copy of TP2017 to members. Members and their topics to write on: 1. Energy – Ben D., 2. Transportation(Walkability) – Larry D., 3. Housing, neighborhoods – Matt W., 4. Recreation(walkability) – Ben C., 5. Education – Jim B.(consider outdoor education), 6. Arts & Culture – Matt W., Joe K. will be bringing in info., 7. Financial – Matt W., 8. Economic – Matt W., 9. Preservation and Conservation – Ben D., 10. Hazard Mitigation, Flood Resiliency – Ben C., 11. DEI. Members work on topics, use TP2027, using Ben C.'s template, for 11/04/2024 meeting.

6. Bylaw Modernization. Place Sense. Additional updates to VT statutes and laws regarding Act 250, HOME act. Plan for PC public hearing, SB public hearing. Discuss timetable for PC public hearing.

Check on language for 10' set back in M.U. Also, some minor administrative changes to final draft document. Motion to accept Bylaw Modernization final draft, with changes as mentioned, Ben C. Larry D. 2nd. Motion passed. Motion to go to a PC public hearing with Final draft on 11/19/2024 at 6pm at The Welcome Center, Ben D. 2nd by Ben C. Motion passed. Ask Place Sense to be available for the public hearing or send a video with their report.

7. Town manager report. N.A.
8. ZA report – Managing certificates of compliance, complaints. 57 permits over last year. 4 single family homes under construction.
9. Conclusions- Next activities, actions. Ready for 11/04/2024 meeting. Matt has 8rs/week to focus on PC business. Continue writing first drafts for TP2025. Finish with Final draft by 02/28/2025.
10. Close meeting. Ben C motion, 2nd by Larry D. Motion passed. 8:41pm