

**PLANNING COMMISSION
PRELIMINARY MINUTES**

REGULAR MEETING

April 20, 2010

6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Fred Glover
Terry Carter

Alan Couch
Steve Stengel

Norman Vanasse

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Christine Fuller

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rose Goings

Jason Rasmussen

Duncan Love – LPC TV

RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

1. Call to Order

A. Chairman, Fred Glover called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call by Recording Secretary

A. All members present except Christine Fuller.

3. Elect Chairman of the Board

A. Motion by Steve Stengel and seconded by Terry Carter to elect Fred Glover Chairman of the Board. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Elect Vice Chairman of the Board

A. Motion by Terry Carter and seconded by Norman Vanasse to elect Christine Fuller Vice Chairman of the Board. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Elect Clerk of the Board

A. Motion by Steve Stengel and seconded by Norman Vanasse to elect Terry Carter as Clerk of the Board. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Designate Newspaper of General Circulation

A. Motion by Terry Carter and seconded by Norman Vanasse to continue with THE VERMONT JOURNAL as the newspaper of General circulation and to use THE

RUTLAND HERALD as the back-up newspaper of General circulation. Motion passed unanimously.

7. **Appoint Recording Secretary**

- A. **Motion by Alan Couch and seconded by Terry Carter to appoint Lisha Klaiber Recording Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.**

8. **Adopt Rules of Procedure**

- A. **Motion by Norman Vanasse and seconded by Terry Carter to re-adopt Rules of Procedure for meetings. Motion passed unanimously.**

9. **Adjourn**

- A. **MOTION by Norman Vanasse and seconded by Norman Vanasse to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**
B. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

1. **Call to Order**

- A. Fred Glover, Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. **Roll Call by Recording Secretary**

- A. All members present except Christine Fuller.

3. **Approve Minutes**

- A. The minutes to be approved are from the regular meeting of March 30, 2010.
B. **MOTION by Norman Vanasse and seconded by Alan Couch to accept the minutes from March 30, 2010 as written. Motion passed unanimously.**

4. **Comments from Citizens**

- A. There were none.

5. **Town Plan Updating**

- A. Fred Glover advised that there have been incompatibility problems between Terry Carter's MAC and Rose Goings' and Jason Rasmussen's PCs.
B. Jason Rasmussen said that he will record changes at meetings and give a flash drive to Rose Goings. Rose Goings will keep the master copy. This will provide better and consistent formatting.
C. Rose Goings said that she would maintain an updated, clean copy. She said that she will provide updates for binders of work done at meetings. She asked about changes to the Introduction section. She had only noted formatting changes.

- D. Jason Rasmussen said they he thinks that the Introduction is complete. He said that some changes had been made to the Natural Resources section since the last meeting.
- E. Rose Goings said that they need to go through each chapter and make any needed changes. When a chapter is complete, the board should approve that chapter pending any changes needed for new information. She asked about the Earth and Mineral Resources section, referring to notes about changes. We need to answer those questions.
- F. Fred Glover suggested comparing the two computers as the go along. He would like to come up with a plan, possibly consolidated meetings, discuss timing. He said that he had read the Select Board minutes and was concerned about the grant. He asked if this board needs the money from the grant in order to finish the town plan.
- G. Rose Goings said they need the money for advertisements of hearings and meetings, consultants, among other things.
- H. Fred Glover said that there may be some unwillingness on the part of the Select Board.
- I. Rose Goings said that the grant program is for a period of 18 months. The Select Board would like to see the town plan completed sooner than that. The funds from the grant must be used within that 18-month period, and the plan may be completed sooner. We should hear by the end of May or early June if we have received the grant.
- J. Fred Glover asked about consultants, including Loran Greenslet.
- K. Rose said that she has spoken to Loran. He is a great resource. He would be able to discuss future development and expansion, including the Water/Sewer projects currently in progress on Andover Street. She added that Frank Heald is also a good resource. She said that she would like to have someone come in to discuss the energy section. She said they could help with new technologies and definitions. The town plan should address where the town is going and not need to be fully updated every five years. She would like to see a document that would only need minimal changes.
- L. Norman Vanasse said that he would like to add more to the History section. He had written some things about notable people from Ludlow's past, but does not have it here tonight.
- M. Jason Rasmussen asked Norman Vanasse to get the information to Rose Goings and she would enter it. He suggested not reading through every chapter at the meetings. He asked board members to read through them and bring comments to the meetings. He would like to discuss policies and changes at the meetings.
- N. Rose Goings said that there are no goals and policies in the Introduction. She asked if the purpose is strong enough. She would also like to add comments about Local Act 250 review.
- O. Fred Glover asked if the Town Plan plays a part in Local Act 250 review.
- P. Rose Goings said yes
- Q. Jason Rasmussen said the DRB now has authority over the 3 criteria concerning schools, municipal services and town plan compatibility.
- R. Rose Goings said that she is going to a meeting at Vermont Law School, this coming Friday, to discuss the JAM Golf decision and how we can incorporate it into the town plan. It will affect DRB decisions and the town plan.
- S. Fred Glover suggested having the DRB come in to discuss any problems that they may be having in respect to the town plan.
- T. Rose Goings said that she would like to see more in overall future goals for the town in the plan.
- U. Jason Rasmussen suggested a vision statement for now and the future.
- V. Rose Goings suggested a sort of "to-do" list. She also suggested that General Recommendations become General Requirements.
- W. Fred Glover suggested that we should be more specific in regard to the Ten Criteria for Act 250. He suggested listing the Ten Criteria in the appendix.
- X. Jason Rasmussen added them in the appendix. He suggested starting to work on the Vision Statement.
- Y. Fred Glover said that maybe they should wait on that until they have gone through the other

- chapters to see how it may best encompass the rest of the town plan.
- Z. Terry Carter read through comments from the survey to see what people said about Ludlow.
- AA. Rose Goings noted that Okemo is adding an Alpine Coaster and gearing toward four-season activities.
- BB. Jason Rasmussen listed the following comments that may be incorporated into the Vision Statement: small town, friendly people, skiing/tourism, natural resource protection, vibrant year-round community, local economy, quality municipal services, affordable housing, EMS, fire, police, etc. He said that he and Rose Goings will work something up and email it to board members.
- CC. Fred Glover said they should touch on all chapters of the plan in the Vision Statement.
- DD. Jason Rasmussen added re-vitalizing the village.
- EE. Steve Stengel said that Affordable Housing is mentioned in Community Profile.
- FF. Rose Goings said that she has no changes indicated in Community Profile.
- GG. Terry Carter said most of the changes were in formatting.
- HH. Rose Goings said that they need to go over the entire chapter as much of the information is outdated.
- II. Fred Glover said it was a heavily census-laden chapter. He added that the board discussed what data to save and which to delete.
- JJ. Jason Rasmussen said that some basis is helpful, but it is data-heavy.
- KK. Rose Goings said that the information regarding Okemo is outdated.
- LL. Jason Rasmussen said that he has more recent skier data.
- MM. Fred Glover said they had discussed putting in a footnote that some data is based on the 2000 Census.
- NN. Rose Goings said that they need to get more recent data from the schools.
- OO. Terry Carter said that she had gotten births and death information.
- PP. Rose Goings said that since the last plan, Gill had added the apartments.
- QQ. Terry Carter said that she had gone to the trailer parks for more recent information and that she thought that Christine Fuller had gotten new information from Gill.
- RR. Jason Rasmussen said that some data is limited at the town level. He added that he had not looked at this chapter very much. He said that he and Rose Goings would work in it together. He said that it may be worth looking at the Grand List. He said that the seasonal population is very large and the infrastructure must be developed to meet those needs. He said they will look at that. He does have new numbers from Okemo and will enter those. In some other cases, new data may not be available.
- SS. Terry Carter said that she would get this year's births and deaths.
- TT. Rose Goings asked why that was needed for the town plan.
- UU. Terry Carter said it is interesting. There are more deaths than births and it shows a trend.
- VV. Norman Vanasse said that it is also interesting to look at school populations. There are 185 students spread over grades 7 through 12 at the school.
- WW. Rose Goings said that much of the population increase is in retired people. She does not want the town plan to sound like this is a retirement community. She would prefer to gear it more toward family. We need to determine what our goals are and how we word things.
- XX. Fred Glover said that the Community Profile presents a challenge.
- YY. Rose Goings said that the retired people are all about helping the community. They are active and do a lot for the town. One of the goals could be to get families back into the community. We have a great Recreation Department.
- ZZ. Fred Glover said that in order to get families back into town, we need jobs and affordable housing. If the housing were affordable, people would commute to Rutland or Springfield. People are also leaving the state.
- AAA. Steve Stengel said that people are still looking for the quality of life.
- BBB. Rose Goings said that should be included in the town plan.

- CCC. The following were listed: quality of life, open land, recreation, schools, fresh air, low crime rate, tolerance, security of a community, peaceful, core community, Garden Club, Streetscapes and Farmers' Market.
- DDD. Jason Rasmussen said that he and Rose Goings would put something together.
- EEE. Rose Goings referred to the breakdown between the Village and Town listed in the town plan. She asked if they want to keep it that way. She also added that the village is pretty much maxed out with respect to future development.
- FFF. Jason Rasmussen said that would be part of Land Use – where to encourage development and commercial growth. There also has to be a balance with protecting natural resources. The board needs to consider that.
- GGG. Rose Goings suggested that they consider pursuing Village Center Designation.
- HHH. Jason Rasmussen said that the state gave the town a hard time when they were trying for downtown designation. The benefits are that the town gets more points when applying for grants. Business owners of historic buildings get incentives for repairs or putting the buildings back to the way they were originally and there are also transportation incentives. Village Designation is pretty similar to the town designation, except there are no incentives for transportation.
- III. Fred Glover asked how to proceed with work on the town plan.
- JJJ. Jason Rasmussen said they should revisit chapters one and two.
- KKK. Rose Goings said that she and Jason Rasmussen would go through them and have them ready and emailed to board members for review prior to the next meeting. It would be a quicker process if the board members would review and note comments before the next meeting. She said they would show all changes.
- LLL. Jason Rasmussen said board members would hopefully be able to do this for the next meeting.

6. **Other Business**

- A. Challenges for Change
- i. Norman Vanasse distributed copies of a letter written by Tom Kennedy and Peter Gregg regarding this.
 - ii. Jason Rasmussen said that it refers to the proposed \$38 million budget cuts.

7. **Adjourn**

- A. **MOTION by Norman Vanasse and seconded by Terry Carter to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**
- iii. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisha Klaiber