

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

**PRELIMINARY MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING**

February 20, 2018

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Logan Nicoll, Vice Chairman    Terry Carter                      Alan Isaacson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Alan Couch                                      Norm Vanasse

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Rose Goings

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Jason Rasmussen                      Ed McEaneyey -Okemo Valley TV                      Lisha Klaiber, Recorder

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A. Logan Nicoll called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL BY RECORDING SECRETARY**

A. All Planning Commission members present, except Alan Couch and Norm Vanasse.

**3. Consideration of any Changes, Additions or Removals to the Agenda**

- A. Alan Isaacson asked if the board wanted to add zoning to the agenda.
- B. Rose Goings advised that the public hearing for Interim Zoning had been warned and they can leave zoning off the agenda.
- C. No changes made.

**4. APPROVE MINUTES**

- A. The minutes to be approved are from the meeting of January 16, 2018.
- B. Terry Carter noted that on page 3, item #6C, XXXXX should read Terry Carter.
- C. **MOTION by Alan Isaacson and seconded by Terry Carter to approve the minutes January 16, 2018 as amended. Motion passed unanimously.**

**5. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

A. There were none.

6. **TOWN PLAN**

- A. Jason Rasmussen referred to a list which he distributed of tasks that were written into the grant. He would like to set up a time line and what will be the next steps. He understands that the board wants to reorganize the plan and make it more readable.
- B. Alan Isaacson said he sent a list of the town plans that we had previously reviewed to Jason Rasmussen. He said we had looked at those plans for the purpose of creating our Vision and the board may want to review it.
- C. Terry Carter said that they need to know what they should have in the plan and decide what they can let go.
- D. Jason Rasmussen asked if the data could all be moved to the Appendices.
- E. Alan Isaacson said he doesn't know what is required, but asked if sections could be consolidated.
- F. Jason Rasmussen said there are 12 required elements, but they may be combined. He said that plans from other towns used more "lay person" terms.
- G. Alan Isaacson said he wants people to be able to read and understand the town plan.
- H. Jason Rasmussen said that in section B of the list he provided, some of those items could be combined and more lay person language used.
- I. Alan Isaacson said, as an example, Natural Resources could use the terms; landscape, water and forestry.
- J. Terry Carter said they could combine items B6 and B7 (Community Facilities/Infrastructure and Demographic/Community Conditions.)
- K. Alan Isaacson said he would like to add language to the Vision that would say: how to create and keep the community. He said he does not think that the community is just the school.
- L. Jason Rasmussen said they can revisit the Vision. He suggested that they may want to consider surveys or public meetings.
- M. Terry Carter said they would need to advertise a meeting.
- N. Jason Rasmussen said they could invite focus groups from the community and hold a series of public meetings.
- O. Alan Isaacson said they should ask the Select Board how they would like this board to proceed.
- P. Terry Carter said there are a lot of new, younger couples in town and it would be good to get them involved.
- Q. Logan Nicoll said he could bring this up at the next Select Board meeting. He suggested they appeal to certain groups, such as the Chamber.
- R. Terry Carter added Streetscapes and the Women's Club.
- S. Logan Nicoll said they want to set the stage for more development.
- T. Rose Goings suggested asking Marjie Graf, Sharon Bixby and Ralph Pace from FOLA.
- U. Alan Isaacson said they also need to involve younger people with different interests.
- V. Jason Rasmussen suggested inviting the key people.
- W. Terry Carter said they should publicize a meeting and send special invitations to those groups, saying it is to work on a Vision for the Town.
- X. Rose Goings said advertising in the papers costs money and that would take away from the money used for Jason Rasmussen's time. She said that an ad costs about \$200.00 each time.
- Y. Terry Carter suggested they do one ad and include that they will have food.
- Z. Alan Isaacson asked if they want to make a presentation and have a moderator. Also, when would they hold the meeting and what would they serve.
- AA. Terry Carter suggested evening and pizza.
- BB. Logan Nicoll said he would bring up the meeting at town meeting.

- CC. Terry Carter said most younger people don't come to town meeting.
- DD. Jason Rasmussen suggested that they establish ground rules for the meeting, with topics to avoid. He asked if the board wants the meeting to be brainstorming or structured.
- EE. Alan Isaacson said structured.
- FF. Jason Rasmussen asked how the meeting would be presented.
- GG. Terry Carter suggested: How to create and keep our community viable. She added that she also wants no griping.
- HH. Jason Rasmussen said to add that the board is looking for constructive comments. He suggested holding the meeting at their next regular meeting on March 20, 2018.
- II. Terry Carter asked how they would get the food.
- JJ. Alan Isaacson said he would purchase 4 pizzas on his credit card.
- KK. Terry Carter said she would bring drinks.
- LL. Jason Rasmussen asked that the board send him a list of the key people they want to invite.
- MM. Alan Isaacson suggested Rotary, Chamber, and FOLA. He added that they also need to get to the "non-entrenched" members of the community.
- NN. Terry Carter said she could post it on Face Book.
- OO. Advertising on Okemo Valley TV was suggested.
- PP. Jason Rasmussen said he would work something up.
- QQ. Logan Nicoll said he would also talk to the political party of which he is a member.
- RR. Jason Rasmussen confirmed the date of Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.
- SS. Terry Carter asked about plates and napkins.
- TT. Rose Goings said she would check with the town office.
- UU. Alan Isaacson said they should discuss this with the Select Board before anyone brings it up at town meeting.
- VV. Logan Nicoll said he would contact the Select Board members individually before town meeting.
- WW. Alan Isaacson said this board can pass this by the Trustees. He asked Rose Goings if she has spoken to David Rose since she had discussed interim zoning with him before the last Trustees' meeting.
- XX. Rose Goings said no, but she would touch base with Dave Rose.
- YY. Jason Rasmussen asked the board to let him know how the Select Board wants to proceed.
- ZZ. Rose Goings said they need to get the ad in the paper as soon as possible. She said if she sends in the ad on the 9<sup>th</sup>, it would appear in the issue on March 14<sup>th</sup>.
- AAA. Logan Nicoll suggested putting the ad in on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and it would run on the 7<sup>th</sup>. He noted that the Select Board will read the minutes.
- BBB. Jason Rasmussen suggested running the ad on March 2 and he will have a flyer read to distribute at town meeting.
- CCC. Logan Nicoll said his wife could design the flyer.
- DDD. Jason Rasmussen said he would sketch out something and circulate it.
- EEE. Terry Carter suggested that Howard Barton be sent an email.
- FFF. Rose Goings said someone could talk to Frank Heald.
- GGG. Logan Nicoll said he would talk to Frank Heald in the morning.
- HHH. Alan Isaacson said he will be out of town all next week and return on March 4<sup>th</sup>. He asked if they would have an agenda with points to discuss.
- III. Jason Rasmussen said he would put something together by the end of this week.
- JJJ. Terry Carter suggested they start looking at the Vision statement tonight.
- KKK. Alan Isaacson suggested that Goal #2 - to maintain the population consisting of residents and families of all incomes, ages and types, is the hardest goal to achieve. He added that, at the moment, he wouldn't change anything.
- LLL. Logan Nicoll said he would like to specify each goal and task for each of the town boards.

MMM. Jason Rasmussen said he would simplify the sections.

7. **OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Logan Nicoll noted that the change made to the town plan was recently used. The change did not hinder development, but also kept the character of the neighborhood.
- B. Rose Goings said this referred to the Sunoco application and 2 places from the town plan were cited by the DRB. She said it was interesting that the Chief did not think that one of the exits would be a problem, but a neighbor did come to the meeting and voiced concerns about the exit. The applicant voluntarily closed that exit. They were very cooperative.
- C. Terry Carter said she was glad to see that a neighbor did come to the DRB meeting.
- D. Rose Goings said that the town plan is a tool for guidance for development. She said that people don't understand that the town plan and zoning regulations can help to work to protect them. This worked in this application.
- E. Logan Nicoll said this could be brought up at the public meeting. The town plan can help reinforce what we want and don't want in town.
- F. Rose Goings said we need to be proactive, not reactionary.
- G. Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2018.

8. **ADJOURN**

- A. **MOTION by Alan Isaacson and seconded by Terry Carter to adjourn this meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**
- B. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisha Klaiber

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Alan Couch, Chairman

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Logan Nicoll

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Terry Carter

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Norman Vanasse

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Alan Isaacson