

Town of Wallingford, VT
Planning Commission Minutes
January 9, 2017

Members Present: Erika Berner (Chair), J. Biasuzzi (serving as alternate), Jill Burkett, Kevin Mullin

Members Absent: R. Lovino, CarolAnn Martin

Others Present: Elysa Smigielski (Planner, Rutland Regional Planning Commission)

Meeting was called to order by E. Berner at 7:10 p.m. and was not electronically recorded.

The meeting's (draft) agenda and Meeting Minutes of Dec. 12, 2016 were reviewed. J. Burkett made a **Motion** to accept the meeting's agenda and Minutes. J. Biasuzzi seconded; all approved and Motion passed.

E. Smigielski, a Town Plan Specialist from RRPC, was introduced to the PC. She described her planning expertise in drafting compliant Town Plans. These included alternative energy standards for "substantial deference" status. The Hubbardton Town Plan was shown as a recent example of a consolidated Plan format that was also interesting (using color graphics & photos) to the reader. J. Biasuzzi asked about printing costs of the example report. E. Smigielski stated that cost was allocated in the RRPC Consulting Budget.

E. Berner made several visits to the (adjacent) Special Select Board budget meeting in progress, to review the consulting agreement with RRPC.

Part of the updated Town Plan format addressed the Village Center Designation. J. Biasuzzi felt this program was not being utilized very much, and needed greater promotion.

E. Smigielski would bring a draft sample of the Wallingford Town Plan, written in a condensed format to the February meeting. The next objective is to schedule a late Spring Town Forum; where public can gather to discuss key issues for the Town. A Public Survey questionnaire should be prepared and distributed as soon as possible (and at Town Meeting), so that opinion results can be reported at the Forum.

The PC scheduled the next regular meeting for Monday, Feb. 13, 2017, at 7:00 pm; at Town Offices.

E. Berner responded to the Select Board request for update on changing the Industrial Zoning District in S. Wallingford. As discussed several times in the past six months, the Town Plan update has priority, followed by a revised zoning adoption that applies new Town Plan objectives.

K. Mullin reported on the Act 174 (Siting & Screening) training seminar that was held at RRPC on 12/12/16.

One main “take off” is to use directive language (“shall or must”) in the Plan and regulations. Regional Planning Commissions have to issue their mandated Energy plans in early 2017. These Plans have to prove to be “practical, do-able, and enforceable.”

K. Mullin made a **Motion** to adjourn the Meeting. J. Biasuzzi seconded seconded.. All approved, and the Meeting concluded at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: J. M. Biasuzzi, recorder _____

Approved: 02/13/17