

October 3, 2013

PC Members Present: Rick Hopkins (Chair), Jean Vissering, Scott Hess, Gene Troia, Jack Pauly, Tom Pierce, Kim Watson, Julie Potter

Others Present: Kristi Flynn (Recording Secretary)

Call to Order: 7:05pm

Public Comment: None

Additions to the Agenda: Reminder of Charter Committee forum; CVRPC merger update

CVRPC Update

The CVRPC will be voting on the CVRPC/CVEDC merger next Tuesday. The SB will give direction to Tim Carver on how he should vote at their next meeting. The Town Plan was approved by the CVRPC but they were not all happy with the Housing section because of the growth projections. It was noted that the town handled the section appropriately based on state statute.

Discussion of Items for Possible Revision to Zoning Regulations

The first seven items on the Easy list were tackled at the 9/17 meeting.

- Section 7.8(A)(1) – change DRB to PC to make it correct
- Signs [Section 3.15(B)(6)] – discussion regarding changing the height of 20 feet, the PC decided to leave the regulation as it is
- Fences [Section 7.2(2)] – the fence and structure definitions differ on the height of the fence, make the following changes:
- Structure – add “walls and fences 6’ or less in height...”; fences over 6’ become a structure and need a permit
- Fence – change “Agricultural fences of any height, and other fences or walls 6’ or less in height...”
- Timing for amending zoning permit applications [Section 7.3] – decide what is allowable to change during the hearing, DRB can put conditions on the permit; part of the solution is holding more sketch plan reviews; because applications are supposed to come in complete, the PC decided to leave regulation as it is.
- Certificate of compliance [Section 7.4] – the certificate is currently not being used, so this is not applicable at this time

Discussion on Resilient Communities Scorecard

The current Town Plan is weak on health and energy. The PC reviewed some random sections of the scorecard.

Sec I – Promote vibrant community – score = 22-30, which translated to In Transition

Sec II – Provide and encourage transportation options – score = 9-14, which translated to Needs Attention

Sec III – Environment and natural resources – score = 21-24, which translated to Resilient Community

Sec V – Promote physical activity and local food – score = diverse opinions on the PC

Sec XI – Promote renewable energy – score = 4-6, which translated to Needs Attention

PC agreed the scorecard will be useful to review before tackling the Town Plan again.

Review of Minutes

September 19, 2013

Motion: I move to approve the minutes as amended. Made: Ms. Watson, second: Mr. Troia

Vote on Motion: Passed 6-0, Potter and Hess abstained

ZA Report

- Two new permits
- Alan Goldman – pond is eroding the bank by his building in North Montpelier, also in the flood zone

DRB Report

Hearing on 10/1 – Hill subdivided 7 acres off to sell to Seth Gardner for agricultural use; upcoming hearing on 10/15 – Mike Brown is buying 3 acres from Hawkins.

The DRB also changed their bylaws to designate the first Tuesday of each month for hearings.

Other Business

- Charter Committee forum – 10/9 at 7pm in the U-32 cafeteria; opportunity to get early input and feedback
 - One PC item – enforcement through a Judicial Bureau, doesn’t need to be in charter but needs to be discussed
 - The charter becomes state law after being approved by the legislature
- Capital Improvement Plan –
 - Not too far along yet, steep learning curve

- Still deciding on the format and coming up with an inventory
- Developing survey to use for interviews
- Looking to have ready to present at 2015 Town Meeting
- East Montpelier Elem School – EM Fire Department says they need a pond for a sprinkler system, stay tuned

Next meeting is 10/17 at 7pm.

Motion to Adjourn. Made: Mr. Troia, second: Mr. Hess. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kristi Flynn, Recording Secretary