

I - Call to Order

PC Members attending- Dennis Casey, Chair, Norm Cota, Dan Harris, Jeff Keeney and Dan Nugent.

Others present- Brandy Saxton and Dave Wetmore

7:00 PM –Dennis called the PC meeting to order. Dave took minutes.

II- Adjustments/Minutes

Minute review moved to end of meeting-

8/3/2017 minute’s review- Jeff moved minutes as presented, 2nd by Norm. Approved 5-yes and 0-no. Dennis signed.

III- Visitors Business and Adjustments to agenda

No Visitor business

IV- PC Business

Review of 1st draft edits to 8/16/2017 draft, pages 1-35

These are the edits presented by Brandy to the “community profile” section of Town Plan. The PC continues to work on edits to the “community plan” which includes the goals, objectives and policies.

“Community Profile” section edits dated 8/16/2017 are not complete and to date progress includes;

No change at this time to “10 general goals”

Overall Brandy’s goal is to revise and make edits to the previous Plan, eliminating the outdated information and replacing with current relevant data.

Page 11- Edits to “public participation” process.

Pg. 13- Need to review surrounding Town zoning amendments that might change this section.

Pg. 14-18 – “Natural Setting” is largely new and much enhanced, including sections on “climate”, “air quality”, “terrain”, “geology”, and “soils”. Maps will be included related to these features.

Pg. 18- 23- Includes water, flood and erosion hazards, and wetlands. Stormwater management is a now major factor of municipal roads management. Stormwater will be discussed in greater length in the “transportation” and “natural resources”. Final “hazard mitigation plan” will be cited here. Updated water quality statistics will be included and cover type map added. Land cover will focus on the range of cover types in Town.

Pg. 23- This is an area the Conservation Commission and Robert may want to weigh in on. Dave acknowledged that Robert does plan to contribute and that the CC has yet to respond to “community assessment” requests.

Pg. 25-29 “Historic Context”- This section, overall, will be revised and reduced in length. Farm data needs to be updated, to reflect only 2 operating dairy farms and the more diverse nature (including aquaculture) of the agricultural business community in Starksboro. Dave reminded Brandy of the Ag business survey and responses as a resource.

Pg. 30- "Community Profile"- requires considerable edits. Population is flat and will be for some time. Revised statistics are not accurate. Zoning activity is down significantly from early 2000's.

Pg. 32- PC noted that IBM is now Global Foundries. Zoning history will be added here.

Pg. 33- Need to add more through comments related to mobile home park structure and resident quality of life.

Pg. 34- Dave shared that he is meeting with SB and Jim Carroll related to seasonal camp uses that are changing to year around occupancy. The Plan needs to be clear why/how conversions negatively affect the Towns ability to serve these residential areas and their negative effects on the core block of Upland Planning Area.

Review w/ Brandy will continue on September 21. Dave asked if Brandy is incorporating all the work done by various groups and individuals, including the ag evaluation/survey results? She has this information and will check.

Planning workshop/forum- planned for 10/5/2017 at Robinson School. Dave will check on room availability. Brandy noted the 3rd or 4th would work as well. Workshop will be held from 6:30-9:30 PM. Brandy noted that the forum will focus on energy and provide more direction for Energy Working group. She shared a proposed outline for the Forum.

Jeff- expressed concern and frustration with Brandy's lack of response related to the Energy Working Groups (EWG) task list. She had indicated at the 7/20 meeting that she would provide this information within a week. The EGW met and reviewed the constraint maps and data profile from ACRPC, but lacked the relevant task list needed to move forward. Brandy w/put an outline together for the EWG, soon after September 7. The forum will focus largely on energy and should provide information for EWG.

Dan H.-suggested the forum needs to help folks put into perspective what 90% by 2050 really looks like. Jeff expressed that he had talked with Dave Blitterdorf and he stated Starksboro would require 60 acres of solar and an investment of \$120 million to offset home and business electric consumption. Dan H. commented that Caleb Elder had suggested a larger amount of acreage, but either way it's a big number and it doesn't include transportation. Offsetting our electric consumption is doable, but dramatic changes would be required to offset transportation energy consumption. PC agreed that grid upgrades would be critical to any energy plan. Residents need to understand what is being asked of them. Dave noted that S-51 sponsored by Senator Cris Bray seeks to make the 90% goal a law. Dave will put a not in the Gazette about the Forum- "save the date". More details in the October Gazette.

Brandy left at 8:15

Class 4 road proposed changes- Dave reminded PC that the Selectboard's public meeting on the change to Brown Hill East and Mason Hill will be discussed at a meeting on August 22nd at Robinson School. PC noted that often landowners use portions of class 4 roads for skidding and other management tasks and reminded that any work in the Town right-of-way should be approved by the Selectboard 1st.

Hazard Mitigation Plan- Dave reported that the draft Plan is mostly complete and it has been submitted to the State for preliminary review. Still pending minor edits..

Continued review of Community Plan section of Town Plan from 8/3/2017

Transportation

Goal 24-27 - keep

Objective 22-31- Keep, #25 and 29 should be combined and consolidated

Policy 45 – Keep

P-46- Keep 1st and 2nd sentence and eliminate bullets. 2nd sentence edit “Therefore, ~~the~~ continue ...”.

P-47-49- Keep

P-50- edit- change “Limit” to “Regulate”.

P-51-52- Keep

P-53- edit- “Regulate over-weight and over length trucks and the transport of hazardous materials on Town roads to the greatest extent feasible ...”.

P-54-55- Keep

Energy- skip for now and wait for outcome of public forum and recommendations of EWG.

Natural Resources-

G- Keep

O-37-45- Review later once Robert and CC has made comments

P-68- edit- “Regulations should ensure ...”. Eliminate 2nd sentence.

P-69, 70- eliminate

P-71- edit- Eliminate 1st sentence . 2nd sentence will be “Maintain FC and ASRR districts to protect scenic resources. Move 3rd sentence to an objective; “Develop an inventory ... preserving them”.

P-73- Keep but revise to reflect Zoning changes.

PC will continue next meeting beginning with Policy #74.

V- Other

Mail/Correspondence-

VLCT Town Fair October 4th and 5th in Killington, VT

VI- Adjournment

Norm moved to adjourn at 9:30 PM, Jeff 2nds. Motion to adjourn approved, 5- yes, 0-no.