

Town of Starksboro  
Planning Commission meeting  
Minutes of July 15, 2021  
Draft

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Board members present: Dennis Casey, Dan Nugent, Brad Boss, Jeff Keeney, Rodney Orvis  
Unable to attend: Dan Harris, Denny Barnard  
Others present: Kris Perlee (ZA), Carin McCarthy

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The meeting was called to order to 7:20 p.m. by Chair Dennis Casey. The meeting was in person at the Town Office and conducted via ZOOM video/teleconference.

Visitor's Business – none

### Current Business

#### **Approve June 3 Minutes**

Motion to approve with edits from J. Keeney and R. Orvis made by J. Keeney, 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Orvis. So voted

#### **Discussion of Town Green project**

D. Nugent stated that Vt. Frames would sell a kit for \$40,000. This is lumber only. They would also donate use of crane. Discussion of additional costs. Final cost estimated at \$55-60,000. D. Casey suggested looking into harvesting timber from town forest. D. Nugent said that it would require 20' logs. Group discussed possible funding options. C. McCarthy will meet with fund raising group to figure out next steps.

C. McCarthy then opened discussion about the school closure and merger discussions happening at the SU. She discussed the concerns that if the town doesn't vote to separate from SU, they will lose this option once the merger committee presents its findings. Explained that Lincoln is in the process of trying to pull together a vote to leave SU. Discussion around having a town forum around the school to find out what people feel about the future of Robinson School. Discussion around what role the PC could have. Will wait until after the town forum to decide next steps.

#### **Discussion of Substantial Deference**

J. Keeney discussed the response letter from the energy committee. He was very disappointed by the response they received. He feels they didn't address any of the issues that the PC raised. Group discussed limitations around current infrastructure. D. Casey will reach out to GMP to see if they could have a representative come to a future meeting to discuss current and future of Starksboro's infrastructure. Group decided to shelf this discussion until after the school issue is cleared up.

#### **Review past work on Zoning Bylaw revision.**

No real progress at this point. K. Perlee will provide a list of future uses that they might want to add to the zoning. He also suggested that they look at the zones and the dimensional for those zones.

**Motion to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.:** D. Nugent moved, J. Kenney second.

**Motion was approved unanimously.**