

Town of Killington Planning Commission
Minutes from 5/1/2024 Meeting
Meeting held in Public Safety Building as well as Zoom.

Start Time: 7:01pm
End Time: 9:01pm

PRESENT:

Jennifer Iannantuoni, Chair
Vince Wynn
Ricky Bowers
Andy Salamon
Robert Hecker*
Lisa Davis Lewis, Town Planner
William Austin, Assistant Town Planner

GUEST ATTENDEES:

Michael Ramsey, Town Manager
Jim Haff, Zoning Administrator
Jeremy Gildrien, RRPC Planner*
Emily Hudson, Recreation Director*

Participants Joining via Zoom*

1. Open Meeting

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Chair requested a motion to approve the agenda as may be amended. Wynn made the motion and Salamon seconded it. There being no amendments, the motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes – April 10, 2024

The Chair requested a motion to approve the minutes from the April 10, 2024, meeting. Wynn made the motion and Bowers seconded it. There being no amendments, the motion passed unanimously.

4. Citizen's Input

None.

5. Enhanced Energy Plan

Davis Lewis updated the Commission on the Enhanced Energy Plan (EEP). She indicated that preparation of the EEA was one of the action items listed in the Energy Section of the Town Plan. The Town received a \$4500 grant to prepare the plan and entered into an agreement with Rutland Regional Planning Commission to assist the Town. She then introduced Jeremy Gildrien from RRPC and asked him to provide the Commission with an

overview of the plan and process. The Chair asked Gildrien how many towns have adopted Enhanced Energy Plans and how often they need to be updated. Gildrien stated that many towns have EEP's and that once prepared, it will be integrated into the Town Plan and will need to be updated every 8 years. Gildrien stated that the EEA serves two main functions – it serves to guide energy development in the Town, and it provides the Town with legal standing in Section 248 proceedings before the Public Utility Commission. Davis Lewis asked Gildrien to provide an overview of the major components. Gildrien stated that the Plan is broken into three categories, with the first being an overview of existing energy consumption. The next section contains targets to reduce energy use while still maintaining quality of living. The final section deals with the policies and actions the Town can implement to achieve these goals. The Plan serves to identify appropriate locations for energy facilities. He remarked that there is an equity component of the Plan which focuses on distributing facilities throughout the Town. In terms of implementation, Gildrien indicated that many towns create an energy board to assist in implementation. Gildrien asked the PC to review the handout which shows existing energy consumption by sector and then set targets for 2025, 2035 and 2050. Davis Lewis asked Gildrien about the data sources that were used to determine existing energy consumption. Gildrien explained that they rely on a variety of sources and while the numbers may not be 100% accurate, he believes they are accurate enough to show trends. The Chair indicated that in general the targets for 2035 and 2050 seemed reasonable but the targets for 2025 seemed ambitious. The Chair asked the other Commissioners to provide comments. They agreed with the assessment that the 2025 numbers seem ambitious, but the other targets seemed reasonable. The Chair did note that these numbers are only targets and there are no penalties if the targets are not achieved. The Chair thanked Gildrien for his presentation and indicated that she looked forward to working on the EEP.

Davis Lewis indicated that she would like to raise one more item relative to the EEA. The Town Plan lists the preparation of a Viewshed Analysis as an action item in the Energy Section. She and Austin met with Lucy Thayer from TCE Consulting Engineers, who specializes in preparing viewshed analysis. Ms. Thayer stated that having such a study will provide the Town with greater control over the placement of energy facilities. The Chair agreed with Davis Lewis that assuming the cost is reasonable, the Town should move forward on this. Davis Lewis stated that we are waiting for a proposal from her.

6. TA Grant Presentation (Joint Meeting with Rec. Committee)

Davis Lewis provided the Planning Commission with an overview of the project. She reminded the Commission that the goal of the study is to come up with alternatives to improve bike and pedestrian connections within the study area which consists of the Route 100 corridor from River Road to and including its intersections with Route 4. Davis Lewis stated that after working with our consultants for approximately a year including several public meetings, the Steering Committee has come up with the preferred alternative which because of the size of the project, consists of a series of preferred alternatives. With the assistance of the Recreation Director who joined the meeting, Davis Lewis reviewed the alternatives with the Commission. Davis Lewis stated that it's important to understand that there are obstacles associated with implementing these alternatives, but this plan will allow us to seek grants to fund the various components. She indicated that the VOREC

grant will allow us to implement Alternative 2, which creates a new multi-use trail connecting the Sherburne trails parking to the Pesky Carne trail system. The Chair indicated that it was great to see us doing real planning. Davis Lewis indicated that the next steps are to present the preferred alternatives to the Selectboard (May 13, 2024) and if the Selectboard agrees then the Steering Committee will direct VHB to prepare a draft final report. A final public meeting will be held before the report is adopted by the Selectboard.

7. Appointment of Zoning Administrator

The Chair opened the floor for nominations for the position of Zoning Administrator. Wynn made a motion to nominate Jim Haff. Bowers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Updates and Reports

- Raise Grant – No updates.
- Killington Forward - The Chair noted that it is exciting that construction has commenced on the lower portion of Killington Road.
- Recreation Master Plan
Davis Lewis stated that she and Austin met with Integrated Architecture to discuss the Recreation Master plan. The firm has extensive experience working on similar projects and as such they solicited a proposal from them. The proposal is due back by May 15, 2024.
- VOREC
Davis Lewis stated that we are waiting to receive a grant agreement from ANR and that a press conference with the Governor to announce the grant recipients is scheduled for May 29, 2024.

9. Commissioner's Concerns

Salamon remarked that he will be on vacation from May 10 to May 23, 2024.

10. Other Business – None.

None.

11. Executive Session – None.

12. Next Meeting – May 22, 2024.

13. Adjourn

The Chair requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:01pm. Wynn made a motion which Bowers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Davis Lewis
Town Planner