

TOWN OF KILLINGTON PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes from the Meeting of March 1, 2023

Public meeting held at the Public Safety Building and remotely via Zoom teleconference

PRESENT: Jennifer Iannantuoni, Chair
Vince Wynn*
Young Namkung
Andy Salamon
Lisa Davis Lewis, Planning Consultant

START: 7:00 p.m.
END: 8:46 p.m.

GUEST ATTENDEES: Curt Peterson*
Ed Bove
Maggie O'Brien *
Ethan Pepin*
Jim Haff

*Participants attending via *Zoom* video conferencing

1. Open Meeting

Jennifer Iannantuoni, Chair opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Chair requested a motion to approve the meeting agenda as may be amended. Lisa Davis Lewis requested that we add on item - an introduction from UVM Intern Paige Kolesnik. The Chair suggested that the introduction be done before Updates and Reports. Namkung made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. Salamon seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Chair requested a motion to approve the draft minutes from February 1, 2023, Meeting. There being no amendments, Namkung made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Salamon seconded. Motion passed – 3-0 with Wynn abstaining.

4. Citizen Input

Young Namkung raised concerns about the increased traffic on East Mountain Road especially now that the ski resort is opening the Bear Mountain lift at 7:30 am on Saturdays. Young said it is becoming increasingly difficult to exit his driveway and that the increased traffic and poor condition of the roadway is making it more difficult. The Chair indicated that this matter should be raised with the Town Manager and the Highway Superintendent.

5. Paige Kolesnik Introduction

Lisa Davis Lewis indicated that Paige will be interning for the Town and the PC this spring and she asked Paige to say a few words about herself. Paige stated that she was a second-year student at UVM studying business with a minor in environmental studies.

She is looking forward to working with the PC and learning more about town government.

6. Updates and Reports

- **Town Plan** – Davis Lewis reported that she Maggie O’Brien from RRPC provided the Commission with updated chapters on Economic Development and Housing. She asked the Commissioners to provide edits so that we can finalize those 2 chapters. Ethan Pepin of the RRPC reviewed the transportation goals and action items from with the Commissioners. He started with the 2015 Plan and indicated that there was a lot of good ideas but that it was redundant and difficult to follow. Also, the 2015 Plan combined goals and action items and in this version, Ethan kept goals as more high level and moved specific recommendations into action items. The Commissioners agreed to consolidate several of the goals. The Commissioners discussed adding a goal or action item about reducing speeds along Route 4 in the vicinity of the post office. The Chair asked for a clarification as to what was meant by access management and Ethan explained it was related to the large number of curb cuts along Killington Road which do not have defined ingress and egress points. Davis Lewis explained that a 30-foot curb cut is standard and many of them along Killington Road are much wider citing the Wobbly Barn as an example. Vince asked whether this is something that should be included in zoning for future development projects and the Commissioners felt that should be identified as an action item. We should also include asking property owners to voluntarily reconfigure their points of ingress /egress to make the roadway safer. The Commissioners then pivoted the discussion to the energy chapter. Maggie explained that we did not have sufficient time to prepare an enhanced energy chapter and the Commissioners expressed concerns that the Town might be vulnerable if someone proposed solar or wind facilities on an important watershed or adjacent to an important resource. The Commissioners discussed the need to protect certain resources such as Deer’s Leap, Gifford Woods, and Kent and Colton ponds. They also discussed the need to protect certain watersheds such as traveling along Route 4 from its intersection of Killington Road to East Mountain Road. Davis Lewis suggested that she and Maggie meet with Barbara from RRPC (who is the expert in this field) to discuss how the Town can protect itself. The Chair felt that it is important that the Town Plan reflect the importance of protecting these resources even if we ultimately have little control over their placement. They also discussed whether there should be an action item for the Town to draft zoning bylaws that regulates solar facilities. Davis Lewis explained that the Town has little control over the placement of utilities but could regulate items such as setbacks. She suggested discussing this with Barbara. Maggie told the Commissioners the State has a new grant program to provide funds to do an energy audit of older town facilities and if the Town is interested, she would send along the information to which the Chair answered in the affirmative. Maggie indicated that she would circulate revisions to these chapters and the commission should be prepared to discuss the next two chapters at the March 29 PC meeting.
- **Municipal Planning Grant** –No updates.

- **TIF** – The town vote is scheduled for March 7, 2023. The Chair indicated that the feedback following the 2 public meetings was very positive. The Chair reminded everyone that there is a meeting on March 6 to review all of the articles that are being voted on. The meeting will take place at the Public Safety Building and remotely via zoom. The Chair urged the Commissioners to make certain everyone they know votes. Turnout is key. Vince Wynn indicated that he was impressed with the articles and ads that appeared in the Mountain Times.
 - **TA Grant** – The Selection Committee chose VHB to preform the study. The Committee is waiting for a proposal from them.
 - **VOREC Grant** – Davis Lewis informed the Planning Commission that Town will be filing for reimbursement.
 - **Hazard Mitigation Grant** – Lisa Davis Lewis informed the PC that the Selectboard adopted the HMP so we now have an approved HMP that is good for 5 years.
 - **RAISE Grant** – Lisa Davis Lewis informed the PC that she submitted a application to the US DOT for a \$25 million grant application for the reconstruction of Killington Road. She informed the PC that its very competitive and that Burlington applied as well so we shall see but even if we don't get it this year, we can reapply next year. We have been told that it often requires you to reapply for several years before you are successful. We are also applying for a USDA Loan for the road reconstruction and that application is due April 14, 2023.
7. **Commissioner's Concerns** – Andy Salamon informed the PC that Habitat is building a concrete house on Hickory Street in Rutland. This is very innovative.
 8. **Executive Session** - None
 9. **Next Meeting** – The PC Agreed not to meet on March 15, 2023. The next PC Meeting will be on March 29, 2023 @ 7:00 PM. This meeting will be in lieu of the April 5, 2023 meeting.
 10. **Adjourn** – Namkung made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 pm. Wynn seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Davis Lewis
 Planning Consultant