

Marshfield Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
November 17th, 2016

Members present: Jon Groveman, Faeterri Silver, Michael Schumacher, Melissa Seifert. Not present: Bob Light, Ivan Shadis.

1. Changes to Agenda – Faeterri wanted to share a few things she learned of at the Planning and Zoning Forum hosted by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT). She mentioned ACT 174 of the Vermont State Statutes Energy Development and Improvement Act. These are the Energy Planning Standards for municipal plans. This Standards checklist is a useful resource as the PC is revising the Town Plan because they need to meet the new requirements for Vermont.

Faeterri also mentioned that there is an Energy Dash Board which is an online social platform for people to share what is happening in their neighborhood in regards to help the community be energy conscious.

She also mentioned ACT 64 Vermont Clean Water Act. This act includes municipal roads and water quality. This is also something for the PC to be aware of when making revisions.

Finally, Faeterri mentioned that there is a new Required Agricultural Practices (RAP's) law which regulates farm practices in towns. If anyone has a certain amount of animals the state regulates that farm, anyone with animals under that state number then the towns can regulate but are not required to.

Another change to the agenda was to discuss Bobbi's email regarding the Planning Commission budget for the next year. The PC decided to ask Bobbi if she would transfer the remaining \$4,000 and add another \$1,000 so the budget would be the same as last year.

2. Approve minutes – There were no minutes available to approve from the last meeting because they were written by Ivan and he's out of the state.

3. PC Minutes Taker - Two applicants applied for the note taker position with the Planning Commission and the Development Review Board. The PC is requesting more information from the applicants before they make their decision.

4. Reports – On Monday November 28th 1pm at National Life Jon is going before the State Downtown Board regarding the Village Designation application he recently submitted on behalf of the town of Marshfield.

Jon mentioned that the Planning Commission received an email from Hollister Hill Housing who is applying for a grant from the Vermont Community Development Project Funds and asked if Jon would sign a letter on behalf of the PC saying that their development project aligns with the Town Plan. Jon said he did not feel comfortable doing this since it is not his decision but that of the DRB.

Faeterri volunteered to keep track of all of the changes made while the PC is updating the Town Plan. She also volunteered to update all of the statistics in the Town Plan using a website called American Community Survey which has current statistical information of US towns. Most of the statistical information in the Town Plan is in the form of charts which Faeterri says she cannot edit with the program available to her. She will instead have to make new charts which she will do another time.

5. Continue review of Town Plan – The Planning Commission updated Michael on what had been revised at the previous meeting. Then, moving forward, the PC decided in ‘Chapter 1’ in the Town Plan to change ‘Introduction’ to ‘Overview’. Then they added ‘ of the town plan’ after ‘1. Purpose’

Faeterri went over the new statistics that she got from the American Community Survey website for the charts in Chapter 2.

The PC left off on page 23 of the Town Plan.

The PC decided that the goal moving forward with the Town Plan is to generally reflect what they want for the town of Marshfield, based on the survey results they received (see Town of Marshfield website for more information) and what the priorities of the town are.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm. The next meeting will be on Thursday December 1st at 6:30 pm in the Old Schoolhouse Common meeting room.

Respectfully Submitted by Melissa Seifert

The foregoing is a true copy of the minutes of the November 17, 2016 Planning Commission Meeting.

Attest, _____, Town Clerk
