



Town of Bolton
3045 Theodore Roosevelt Highway
Bolton VT 05676
802-434-5075

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2016
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Planning Commission members present: Steve Barner, Jim Bralich, Rodney Pingree and Deb Shelby

Planning Commission members absent: Linda Baker (Chair)

Also present: Emily Nosse-Leirer (CCRPC) and John Adams (Department of Housing & Community Development)

Clerk: Carol Devlin

Agenda

1. Public Comment
2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda
3. Minutes ~ April 11, 2016
4. Data
5. Goals & Objectives – People: Housing, Town Budget, Governance and Safety
6. Goals & Objectives – People: Demographics, Education, Health, Social Services and Community Connections
7. ERC
8. Feedback on the Planning Manual
9. Graphic Design RFP Process
10. Meetings:
 - June 13, 2016
 - July 11, 2016
11. Other communications/mail
12. Adjournment

Call to Order

Carol Devlin called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Agenda Item #1 ~ Public Comment

The floor was opened to public comment. There were none.

Agenda Item #2 ~ Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

The floor was opened for additions and deletions to the agenda. There were none.

Agenda Item #3 ~ April 11, 2016

Rodney Pingree made a motion to accept the minutes of April 11, 2016. Deb Shelby seconded the motion. The motion carried (4-0).

Agenda Item #4 ~ Data

John Adams went over the highlights of the housing data, especially affordability and mobile homes. 27% of Bolton homeowners pay over 30% of their income on housing costs, compared to 55% of renters and 30% of homeowners in Chittenden County. Bolton has a greater percentage of mobile homes than any other town in Chittenden County.

Agenda Item #5 ~ Goals & Objectives – People: Housing, Town Budget, Governance and Safety

The PC discussed the following:

- What is affordable housing? The consensus was that it is more than just the cost of the house. Transportation, energy costs, upkeep are just some of the factors that contribute to affordability.
- What is safe housing? Abandoned buildings, building codes (especially re: wiring).
- How can we encourage energy efficiency in homes?
- Accessory dwellings. How to educate people about accessory buildings, what they are and the process for building one, potential problems re: septic systems.
- Where can development occur?
- Are there places where communal (neighborhood owned, not town owned) water and septic might be possible?
- Fair housing laws (covered in other objectives so no need for separate fair housing objective).
- Public safety. Relationships with police forces and dry hydrants.
- Ordinances should be enforceable.
- Shared services as an option
- Increasingly annual revenue through alternative sources (NOT increased taxes).

Agenda Item #6 ~ Goals & Objectives – People: Demographics, Education, Health, Social Services and Community Connections

The PC only made a few minor suggestions about the goals and objectives in this section. Comments were given to Emily.

Agenda Item #7 ~ ERC

Deb Shelby updated the PC on the ERC. The ERC's second meeting is May 17, 2016. The agenda will include review of the responses to the survey of local businesses, election of ERC officials, creation of a group to research options for alternative funding, and gage interest in a farmer's market during 2016.

Agenda Item #8 ~ Feedback on the Planning Manual

Deb Shelby is providing feedback to John directly. No other feedback at this time.

Agenda Item #9 ~ Graphic Design RFP Process

Carol Devlin explained that the Advisory Group will have the RFP for a graphic designer for the Town Plan for the June meeting. There is \$4,500 budgeted for graphic design in the MPG budget. The PC recommended that proposals be sent to members and they will return ranking and comments to Carol.

Agenda Item #10 ~ Meetings

June 13, 2016

July 11, 2016

Agenda Item #11 ~ Other communications/mail

- CCRPC, Planning Commissioners' Summit, Tuesday, May 31, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- VLCT (Vermont League of Cities and Towns) Planning & Zoning Forum, Wednesday, June 15.

Agenda Item #12 ~ Adjournment

Steve Barner moved that the meeting be adjourned. Jim Bralich seconded. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Carol Devlin
Clerk, Planning Commission

These minutes are unofficial until accepted.

These minutes were read and accepted by a quorum of the Planning Commission on:

June 13, 2014

Linda R Baker
For the Planning Commission

