



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

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2016
6:00 p.m.

Planning Commission members present: Linda Baker (Chair), Steve Barner, Jim Bralich, Rodney Pingree and Deb Shelby

Planning Commission members absent: None

Also present: Emily Nosse-Leirer (CCRPC)

Clerk: Carol Devlin

Agenda

1. Public Comment
2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda
3. Minutes ~ August 8, 2016
4. Goals & Objectives – Place -- Resilience
5. Goals & Objectives – Place – Cultural, Historic and Scenic Resources
6. Goals & Objectives – Place – Natural Resources
7. Goals & Objectives – Place – Recreation
8. Meetings
9. Other communications/mail
10. Adjournment

Call to Order

Linda Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 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. Carol Devlin passed out a Green Mountain Power (GMP) request for feedback on their reapplication to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) re: the relicensing of the Bolton Falls dam. She requested that the PC members take the packet home, read it and get comments/questions to her by the next PC meeting on September 26, 2016. Comments are due back to GMP by October 7, 2016. Carol is not sure whether the SB will be responding for the town as a whole or whether each board will send its response. Communication between the dam and

the Town, especially during an emergency such as Irene or dam failure is a significant concern and an issue that will be addressed in the Town Plan as well.

Agenda Item 3 ~ Minutes ~ August 8, 2016

Steve Barner made a motion to accept the minutes of August 8, 2016. Jim Bralich seconded the motion. The motion carried (4-0). Note: Deb Shelby arrived after the vote.

Agenda Item 4 ~ Goals & Objectives – Resilience

The PC discussed the second draft of the Resilience section of the Town Plan. The discussion included the following:

- The wording of narrative at the beginning of the section.
- Bolton Falls dam
- Other hazards
- Development a system of emergency notification
- Transportation of hazardous materials
- Status of the Amerigas storage facility
- Stormwater management

Agenda Item 5 ~ Goals & Objectives – Place – Cultural, Historic & Scenic Resources

The PC discussed the Cultural, Historic and Scenic Resources section. Emily Nosse-Leirer acknowledged that she's not sure where this belongs in the plan but we'll work that out later. Currently, the concern is ensuring the content is what the PC wants. The discussion included the following:

- Historic preservation.
- Historic sites in town. Should there be more?
- Get the Conservation Commission's input on this section.
- The importance of view sheds and ridgelines to Bolton's character.

Agenda Item 6 ~ Goals & Objectives – Place – Natural Resources

The PC looked at the first draft of the Natural Resource section. The discussion included the following:

- Gravel pits, particularly the existence of short-term pits and regulations for decommissioning and closing pits.
- Protecting ground water which is Bolton's main source of drinking water.
- Conserved land.
- Vernal pools.
- Working with the Conservation Commission.
- Logging including the fact that towns can't do much to regulate logging and not permitting logging activities as a justification for development on logging roads and cleared sites.

Agenda Item 7 ~ Goals & Objectives – Place -- Recreation

The PC looked at the first draft of the Recreation section. The discussion included the following:

- Should goals included just residents or residents and visitors?

- What types of trails should be referenced in the Town Plan?
- Parking for recreational sites.
- Competing recreational activities.
- How can Bolton make money from its recreational resources?
- How can Bolton finance the management of its recreational resources?

Agenda Item 8 ~ Meetings

- September 19, 2016 – Emily Nosse-Leirer and Deb Shelby will be meeting with the Conservation Commission to discuss the Cultural, Historic & Scenic Resources; Natural Resources, and Recreation
- September 22, 2016 – Pilot Advisory Group Meeting with Brandy Saxton of Place Sense (the graphic designer for the Town Plan)
- September 26, 2016 – Extra PC Meeting
- October 10, 2016 – October PC Meeting

Agenda Item 9 ~ Other communications/mail

Carol Devlin went through the recent communications with the PC:

- The State of Vermont closed on the sale of the Preston Lafreniere Homestead. The new owners plan to repair the building and eventually live there.
- Bolton Market Day is Saturday, September 17, 2016 from 9-1 at Smilie. Deb Shelby said that there were going to be 30 tables at the event. She will be at a table representing the PC but would appreciate it if other members of the PC could attend. The PC congratulated Deb on her hard work on this project.
- Deb Shelby represented Bolton as the pilot for the state Planning Manual at the State Government Municipal Day on September 9, 2016. The session went well and she was asked to return next year to give an update on the process.
- Keith and Megan Fitzpatrick have applied for a Wastewater Permit for a proposed addition to their house on Notch Road.
- The State of Vermont is doing a 3-year parcel mapping project. Carol doesn't have details on the project. The State is providing details. Dean Russell does Bolton's tax maps and is bidding on the project.
- Act 250 applications are going paperless beginning October 3, 2016. The town will no longer receive multiple copies of the paper applications. Carol Devlin will be authorized to receive the electronic version. She will check to see if the email will contain the actual application or a link.
- The National Weather Service is beginning to do river forecasts for the Winooski River at Waterbury. This will enhance Bolton's ability to monitor flooding.
- The CCRPC (Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission) is working on the regional energy plan. An CCRPC representative (Emily Nosse-Leirer) will be attending the October 10, 2016 PC meeting to do a presentation on the regional plan and its implications for the Bolton Town Plan. The PC will follow the presentation with a discussion of the energy section of the plan.

Agenda Item 10 ~ Adjournment

Steve Barner moved that the meeting be adjourned. Deb Shelby seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Note: Rodney Pingree had left before the vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 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:

Sept 26, 2016

Linda L. Baker
For the Planning Commission