



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

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

December 19, 2011
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Bolton Town Office

Planning Commission members present: Linda Baker (via Skype), Chair, Jen Andrews, Steve Barner, Jim Bralich, Rodney Pingree

Planning Commission members absent: none

Also present: Sharon Murray

Clerk: Amy Grover

Agenda

1. Public Comment
2. Review/Amendments to the Bolton Town Plan
3. Minutes ~ November 28, 2011
4. Other communications/mail
5. Any other business
6. Adjournment

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Agenda Item #1 ~ Public Comment

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

Agenda Item #2 ~ Review of Bolton Town Plan

The group noted, reviewed and/or discussed:

- Drafting would begin the first of the year.
- All Town Plan elements are equally important, required to touch on them all by law. Survey compilation will help in identifying community goals and subsequent policies.
- Information compiled from the grand list by Jim Bralich regarding the housing units at Bolton Valley.
- Needed information:
 1. Summary of recent capital improvement projects (i.e. Notch Road reconstruction, town office rebuild, fire station improvements).
 2. Projected major capital improvement projects; i.e. Smilie School roof.

3. UVM's Joiner Brook stream stabilization work – any record of that available, 5 years ago?
 4. Current and projected Smilie School enrollment. Plan can note issues associated with declining enrollment.
- Review response to Hurricane Irene and subsequent flooding; review emergency response plan/local hazard mitigation plan, co-ordinate with the Select Board and VFD, note potential issues of dams upriver on the Winooski River, the North Branch of the Winooski River, and Little River.
 - Consider incorporating the Bear Creek Environmental River Corridor Plan; a fluvial erosion bylaw was recommended.
 - Current plan does not include the specific guidance now necessary for weighted response to the PSB and ACT 250. Noted: very specific policy statements/ community standards are needed, akin to including regulations within the town plan.
 - Consider potential areas for specific standards:
 1. Utilize pre-existing standards or develop Bolton's own standards. Sharon Murray to provide examples of standards.
 2. Industrial development on ridgelines and any related conditions (drainage, impacts to watershed and aquifer recharge areas). Consider if wind energy development would open areas to further development.
 3. Energy development and areas for consideration; setbacks, noise, hydrological analysis.
 4. High elevation standards – only open to energy development? Define exclusionaries.
 5. Standards for bridges and culverts; bridge replacement, retrofits, wider spans.

PC "homework" for the January meeting: continue to review the current plan and identify the key issues; what is needed, completed, not completed, should be amended.

Agenda Item #3 ~ Minutes November 28, 2011

Jim Bralich made a motion to accept the minutes of November 28, 2011. Jen Andrews seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

Agenda Item #4 ~ Other communications/mail

- Notification from Peter Keibel, Natural Resource Board Coordinator of an ACT 250 application filed by the 4 x 4 Center for approval to include the use of a summer trail within the approved winter warm up area.

Agenda Item #5 – Any Other Business

- Linda Baker will be check in with Deb on the possibility of the town implementing a capital budget.
- Amy Grover will compile survey results for the January meeting.
- The next meeting of the PC will be held on Wednesday, January 25, 2012, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Town Office.

Agenda Item #6 ~ Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Amy Grover
Clerk, Planning Commission

These minutes are unofficial until accepted.

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

January 30, 2012

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Baker". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Linda Baker, Chair