



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

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

January 30, 2012
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Bolton Town Office

Planning Commission members present: Linda Baker, Chair (via Skype), 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 of Community Survey Results
3. Review of potential amendments to the Bolton Town Plan
4. Minutes ~ December 19, 2011
5. Other communications/mail
6. Any other business
7. Adjournment

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

Agenda Item #1 ~ Public Comment

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

Agenda Item #2 ~ Review of Community Survey Results

The group reviewed the results of the 2011 Bolton Community Survey. 64 surveys were returned, approximately 420 were sent out with the Bolton Gazette (return rate of approximately 15% based solely on mailing). It was noted that several of the surveys had been printed from the Bolton website, and that most were mailed back to the town. Two drop boxes were available for return as well; at Smilie School and the town office.

Survey results were reviewed and discussed within the context of updating the Bolton Town Plan. It was noted and discussion included:

- Whether to formally present the survey results to the town with some type of public forum.

- Areas that were indicated as needing improvement: phone (cell?) service, EMS, police protection, disaster response, winter road maintenance, community events.
- Possibility of sharing police services with Richmond.
- Bolton crime statistics ~ Sharon to research.
- Possibility of increasing town staff/sharing with a neighboring town; i.e. grant writing, hazard mitigation funding, additional ZA duties, etc.
- Issues that were indicated as having value/support; school consolidation, park & ride, train station, I89 Bolton exit, village plan (possibility of grant funding to do a study), land conservation/conservation fund (although support for this has not been evident at recent town votes, and survey results indicated desired financing is through grants and fundraising), large wind energy.
- How to tout/promote Bolton's conserved lands; their value, why they are important, current uses. Ask the Conservation Commission to brainstorm around this issue – i.e. utilize town report, town meeting, Bolton Gazette, with pictures, monthly led/described hikes with maps etc.
- Issues that were indicated as needing to be addressed: success of ski area, cost of living, property taxes, changing climate/flooding, a capital budget.
- Support carpooling with a local community ride bulletin board/ride program.
- Bolton's 250th birthday – establish a committee to brainstorm event/s, partner with other groups etc.
- Compare survey data to census data.

It was noted that the timeframe for the Town Plan hearing process would not allow sufficient time for careful reconsideration and amendments. Sharon recommended that the PC re-adopt the current plan before its expiration in June, and make known that the PC is currently working on an update, which is common for communities to do. The hearing schedule for re adoption will be finalized at the February 2012 meeting.

Agenda Item #3 ~ Review of potential amendments to the Bolton Town Plan

Tabled until the February 2012 meeting.

Agenda Item #4 ~ Minutes December 19, 2011 Meeting

Steve Barner made a motion to accept the minutes of December 19, 2011. Rodney Pingree seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

Agenda Item #5 ~ Other communications/mail

- Notification from Monaghan Safar Dwight PLLC of a revised map of the boundary line for winter use of the 4 x 4 Center's Act 250 amendment application.
- Notification from the town of Richmond of a public hearing on their town plan. (Noted: Richmond is also readopting their town plan without changes, except for the date, while they work on updating their town plan in 2012.)

Agenda Item #6 ~ Any other business

- The next meeting of the PC will be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2012, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Town Office.

- Linda will be back in VT 2/16/12 – 3/6/12.

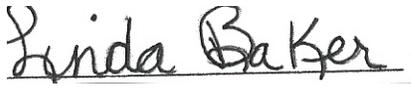
Agenda Item #7 ~ Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Amy Grover
Clerk, Planning Commission

These minutes are unofficial until accepted.

These minutes were read and accepted by the Planning Commission on:
February 22, 2012

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

Linda Baker, Chair