



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

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2014
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Bolton Town Office

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

Planning Commission members absent: None

Also present: Lars Botzjorns (CC) and Amy Ludwin (CC)

Clerk: Carol Devlin

Agenda

1. Public Comment
2. Minutes ~ February 10, 2014
3. Natural Resources Definitions
4. Section 3, Natural Resources, Bolton Town Plan
5. Nomination of a Zoning Administrator
6. Other communications/mail
7. Any other business
8. Adjournment

Call to Order

Linda Baker called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Agenda Item #1 ~ Public Comment

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

Agenda Item #2 ~ Minutes February 10, 2014 Meeting

Jenifer Andrews made a motion to accept the minutes of February 10, 2014. Jim Bralich seconded the motion. All were in favor (5 – 0), motion carried.

Agenda Item #3 ~ Natural Resources Definitions

The PC discussed the list of natural resources definitions with Lars Botzjorns and Amy Ludwin from the Conservation Commission. Lars pointed out that some of the definitions would have tiered levels that would correspond to the tiered priorities map that the CC is working on with Jens. The PC wants to strengthen the definitions in the town plan and use the same definitions throughout the plan and regulations. The Conservation Commission will write up definitions making them more applicable to conditions in Bolton. The PC also discussed what is meant by rural character, a key term in the plan.

Agenda Item #4 ~ Section 3, Natural Resources, Town Plan

The PC discussed Section 3 of the Town Plan with Lars Botzjorns and Amy Ludwin. This section focuses on Natural Resources. There was an extensive discussion of the connection between Bolton's natural resources and recreation. There was a consensus that at the least recreation should be included in the Natural Resources section and maybe have a chapter of its own. Key issues included:

- Balancing protecting resources with management, especially for recreation
- Scenic resources
- Tiered priorities
- Alternative Energies
- Balancing protecting resources with taxes
- Conserved land – the PC asked Carol Devlin to find out how much land is conserved in bordering towns
- Drinking water resources

The PC compared organization of the Natural Resource Sections from other town plans and discussed options for reorganizing and expanding Bolton's section. Linda Baker will read the Natural Resource Sections of other town plans and come up with an outline. The CC will work on drafting some of the sections, especially those involving wildlife and forests.

Agenda Item #5 ~ Nomination of a Zoning Administrator

Steve moved that the PC nominate Miron Malboeuf as the Zoning Administrator for a 3 year term. Rodney Pingree seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Agenda Item #6 ~ Other communications/mail

- The Department of Health has a Healthy Community Design: Technical Assistance program. Representatives came to a SB meeting. They are willing to come to a PC meeting to assist with the Town Plan. They cannot provide money. However, they are able to provide time, people and language. Carol Devlin will contact them and let them know we would like their technical assistance later in the year.
- The Town received several documents in connection to the 4x4 case in Environmental Court.

Agenda Item #7 ~ Any Other Business

The next two meetings were discussed: May 19 to discuss the Town Plan in general and get an overview of changes the PC wants to make and June 9 to discuss ideas for a Municipal Planning Grant.

Agenda Item #8 ~ Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 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:

 Gina Baker

 5/21/14
For the Planning Commission