

MINUTES
FAYSTON PLANNING COMMISSION
JUNE 1, 2015
DRAFT

Members Present: Carol Chamberlin, Polly McMurtry; Rowan Cignoni; ZA: John Weir

Polly called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Members first discussed the Minutes of May 18, 2015. Carol moved to approve, and Rowan seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Members then discussed the amended Rules of Procedure for the Planning Commission. Polly had made the suggested revisions from last meeting. It was agreed that two references to “selectboard” should be capitalized. Other than that, the amended rules were final. Polly signed and John will have Patti record in the land records.

Members then moved on to discuss Josh Schwartz’s Mad River Valley economic work. After Josh’s presentation at the prior meeting, he asked for any feedback the Commission might have concerning the vision statement, guiding principles or summary of town plans. Members focused on the vision statement in particular. The first sentence of the statement is somewhat confusing, and perhaps the second sentence should be the first. Also, members preferred some different word choices, as economic “growth” and “prosperity” didn’t seem to reflect realities in the Valley. Polly will write something up and provide the feedback to Josh.

Members had been thinking of adding pond construction to the other types of development that is restricted by stream/wetland buffer zones. After a brief discussion, this will be tabled for now.

Discussion then ensued as to revising the land use regulations concerning wind and solar energy. More work and research must be done regarding: proper definitions (including “commercial” versus “residential” energy installations; what can actually be regulated by local regulations/permitting; and what other towns are doing. Members will continue this discussion at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Fayston Planning Commission is June 15, 2015. Members will continue on with the discussion of alternative energy installations and the land use regulations then.

There will be no July 6 meeting. Instead the first July meeting will be held on July 13, 2015. Jamey Fidel, General Counsel and Forest & Wildlife program director for the Vermont Natural Resource Council, will speak with members at the July 13 meeting to discuss our revisions to the subdivision regulations.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.