

Planning Commission Minutes  
March 14, 2022

Present: Don Simonini, Doug Day (Chair), Pete Ludlow, Jennifer Hammond, Rick Swanson, Karen Sauther, Hanna Neill (ZA), Andy Phelan, Howard Levin, Clare Rock & Blaine Hoskins (CVRPC).

The Meeting was called to Order: 5:32pm

The minutes of February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 were approved with minor edits.

**PC Reorganization: elect chair and vice chair, any spots we need to fill, set meetings/times, set newspaper record, etc.**

Karen Sauther was elected as Chair of the PC, and Doug Day will be Vice Chair. Doug and Jen have chosen to be reappointed, Carol's term is up and she has chosen to not be reappointed. Therefore, one position for the PC needs to be filled. The Planning Commission Meeting's will continue at twice a month until the LUR changes are complete or we have topics to work through. The PC will continue to meet the first and third Monday at 5:30pm. The Valley Reporter will continue to be the Newspaper record to use. Hanna will continue to act as our clerk until the end of May and we will revisit appointing a new PC member as clerk in June.

June is the goal for LUR changes to be completed.

**Liaison Reports.**

Don: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) original in the '80s and revised in '92. John Hammond will be attending upcoming meeting to entertain discussion in regards to Sugarbush and to answer questions in reference to the MOU. We want to make sure we are supporting the Valley as a whole. This is the beginning of a more vibrant dialogue between the Towns and Sugarbush.

In the 1980's the community got involved with the Sate and Sugarbush to develop these MOUs to support the growth and development. This is a binding document between three towns and a corporation, and was very unique when put together.

**Meet any candidates for PC positions that attend.**

Andy Phelan and Howard Levin were both in attendance as they wish to be involved in their community and are deciding if the PC may be a good place for them.

**Clare Rock of the CVPC attending for an update on recent Fayston PC progress.**

Clare is a senior planner with the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission. She is here to share the services that the CVRPC offers, meet the PC, and hear what Fayston is up to and provide any feedback.

CVRPC has statutory obligations to meet with local planning commissions at least 2 times within 8-year planning cycle. They share resources based on the municipalities needs. Last time a

consultation was done was May of 2018, report was prepared that had a summary of Town Plan. This meeting is less formal. The CVRPC also consulted with us following 2020 Town Plan. Having CVRPC approval can be a prerequisite for certain grants. The mission of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is to assist member municipalities in providing effective local government and to work cooperatively with them to address regional issues. Serve as the link between local, state and federal government. They keep us informed of new legislative requirements or new programs ex. ARPA funds. Undertake their own regional plan which expires in 2024, and will welcome any input Fayston wants to provide to update this. CVRPC helps towns update municipal plans and zoning regulations. CVRPC also manages community programs, provides trainings, transportation programs, emergency preparedness, watershed programs, GIS Service and mapping.

The PC expressed interest in resources to help them to do their job better.

### **Continued discussion on finalizing PUD revisions.**

The PC reviewed the last edited version of PUD section. Karen will do some research to confirm State Minimum and statutory requirements for affordable housing in the contest of density bonuses and review how many years other towns are using. Then we will submit the draft to CVRPC to review.

### **Continued discussion of High Elevation standards/Tree Clearing.**

PC is considering the separation of the topics between High Elevations and Tree Clearing. We should implement Landscaping Standards in which tree clearing is addressed. Logging needs to be addressed and how we as a municipality can regulate it. Currently no permit required for logging, and LURs only state that logging operations must comply with “Acceptable Management Practices for Maintaining Water Quality on Logging Jobs in Vermont,” published by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

High Elevation and Ridgeline standards would be kept separate also, although they may overlap. There was consensus that a landscaping plan showing tree thinning and clearing should be required for applications reviewed by the DRB.

### **Next Meeting 3/28 info:**

1. Continued discussion regarding Tree Clearing standards. Possible inclusion in High Elevation standards. Focus on Landscaping first\*\*
2. Cannabis
3. Don to discuss Trash

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.