

TOWN OF WOODBURY
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: September 8, 2021

Planning Commission Members Present:

Dave Barnowski, Michael Gray, Thomas “Skip” Lindsay-Chair, Jayne Nold-Laurendeau, Michael Sadler, Jim Schweithelm, Ph.D.

Planning Commission Contractor: Clare Rock-Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

Members of the Public Present: Diana Peduzzi, Elizabeth Higgins, Tim Higgins, Laura Murphy; Mike McGlynn

Skip called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Adjustments to the Agenda: None

Public Comment: None

Review Public Comments from the August 28, 2021 Meeting:

The Commissioners reviewed comments from members of the public during the August 28th as noted by Clare. The remarks included those focused on motor sports (ATV’s), junkyards, purpose of the plan, plan adoption process, impact of the plan, implementation actions, future land use, natural settings, and public participation.

Actionable items from these and other comments included changes to the “Outdoor Recreation Goals and a mailing of the town-wide survey.

Here’s the hyperlink to access the August 28 meeting comments document on the Town web site:

<https://www.woodburyvt.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Public-Comments-8.28.21-Meetings.pdf>

Skip noted that in response to the “public participation” commentary, a paper copy of the original on-line town-wide survey was mailed 730 Woodbury residents on August 30-31. The return date for the surveys is September 13, 2021. Here’s the hyperlink to access the survey on the Town web site: <https://www.woodburyvt.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Town-Plan-Survey-Mailed.docx>

Skip will compile the survey information and make it available to residents on the Town web site and on paper at the Town offices.

Review Public Comments from the September 1, 2021 Meeting:

The September 1, 2021 “virtual” meeting was hosted by the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC). The warned meeting was another effort for public participation in the planning process and drew three attendees along with Skip Lindsay and Clare Rock. The material presented during the meeting was identical to the information given by the Planning Commission at the August 28th meeting.

Here’s the hyperlink to access the September 1 meeting comments document on the Town web site:

<https://www.woodburyvt.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Public-Comments-8.289.1-Meetings.pdf>

Draft Town Plan Review and Edits:

Elizabeth Higgins noted the lack of acknowledgement in the Plan for motor sports activities in the Outdoor Recreation Goal portion for the Implementation part of the Plan.

In response to Elizabeth and other motor sports enthusiasts, Skip crafted language that was more inclusionary by adding motor sports activities as part of the objective to “Expand hiking, biking, skiing, and snowshoeing opportunities on public and private lands” and presented the edited language to the Commissioners. After a lengthy review and discussion of the revision, Skip introduced a motion to accept the amended language as written: “Expand hiking, biking, skiing, snowshoeing, and off-road motorsports opportunities on public and private lands” The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The “Future Land Use” plan and map were discussed as well. The Commissioners debated the expansion of the Village Districts and decided not to expand the South Village District up East Hill Road. The other districts, Forest, Agriculture, Lakeshore, and Village Residential remain as designated. Here’s the hyperlink to the updated land use map on the Town web site: https://www.woodburyvt.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2021-9-12_Land-Use-Maps.pdf

The “Proposed Priority Actions” appearing in the draft Plan dated 08.25.2021 on lines 88, 91, 94, 96, and 98 were discussed and amended. Additionally, text was added or amended on lines 165, 170-177, 179, 653, 645, 1444, 1449, 1450, 1462, 1466-1481 and line 1526.

Diana Peduzzi offered to write the Zoning Summary portion of the Plan as Diana has extensive historical knowledge of Zoning activities from its inception.

Look for the updated draft Plan on the Town web site on September 17, 2021 Paper copies of the updated draft Plan will be available at the Town Offices on that date as well

Timeline:

Clare Rock presented a document "Plan and Bylaw Adoption Tools" based on 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117 § 4384, 4385, 4444 & 4447 which defined the Municipal Plan Preparation and Adoption requirements. Here's adoption protocol and critical dates:

- September 17, 2021
 - Mail, electronic or USPS, copies of the draft Plan to Planning Commission chairs of adjoining municipalities
 - Electronic copies to:
 - the executive director of the CVRPC
 - Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development
- October 1, 2021
 - Planning Commission posts a notice of a public meeting scheduled for October 18, 2021.
- October 18, 2021-Planning Commission Meeting
 - Hold a public meeting to discuss the Plan and deliberate any changes to the Plan.
 - Planning Commission recommends the Plan be sent to the Select Board or not.
- November 8, 2021-Select Board Meeting
 - Select Board Accepts the Plan and agree to hold a public meeting on December 13, 2021
- November 9, 2021
 - Select Board posts a notice of a public meeting for December 13, 2021.
- December 13, 2021
 - Select Board holds a public hearing on the Plan

Finally, within one year of date of final planning commission hearing, October 18, 2021, Plans, amendments, and/or repeals, shall be adopted or rejected by a majority of the members of the legislative body at a meeting which is held after the final public hearing, and shall be effective immediately.

Alternatively, within one year of date of final planning commission hearing October 18, 2021, a proposed plan, amendment or repeal for a municipality which has elected (in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §4385 (c)) to do so, shall be adopted or rejected by the vote of the municipality by Australian Ballot (17 VSA, §2641) at a regular or special meeting duly warned and held after the final public hearing. The adoption or rejection shall be effective immediately.

Adjourn:

At 9:12 PM Skip introduced a motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.