



Village of Manchester, Vermont

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission Held on the 17th day of February 2021.

Members Present: Chair Audrey Kolloff, Vice-Chair Richard Heilemann Anthony MacLaurin, Renee Waller, Lu French, Jock Lawrason

Member(s) Absent:

Others Present: Catherine Bryars, BCRC, Jim Hand, Karen Jernigan, Power Guru, Orland Campbell (late), Eric Scott, Administrative Officer and PC Clerk

The meeting was held electronically per 1 V.S.A. § 312 (2) (D) on the Zoom platform.

Chair Audrey Kolloff called the meeting to order at 11:30 A.M.

Minutes:

On a motion by Lawrason and seconded by MacLaurin, the Planning Commission voted to approve the draft minutes of the meeting of December 09, 2020. Motion passed unanimously.

Business:

Discussion regarding the recently approved Municipal Planning Grant (MPG),

Catherine Bryars, BCRC provided an update on the recently awarded MPG. Bryars, Chair Kolloff and Trustee President Campbell are in conversations regarding the grant. The MPG expires the at end of 2022.

Continued discussion on the draft energy chapter and next steps,

Bryars updated the PC on how the new Energy Chapter was progressing. She stated that current usage and energy targets are completed including steps to lower use and increase use of renewables. Plus, the mapping analysis (preferred sites) has a good start. Policy is the focus of this meeting.

The PC worked specifically in the *Local Constraints, Siting Requirements, and Prohibited Areas* section of chapter 10.7. This section includes Local Constraints, Siting Requirements, Unsuitable (Prohibited) Areas, Mass and Scale, Solar, Wind, Geothermal, Woody Biomass, Hydro, and Large-Scale Energy Storage. Consensus was reached on the language in the Wind, Geothermal, Woody Biomass, Hydro, and Large-Scale Energy Storage paragraphs.

Consensus could not be reached on the solar paragraph. Bryars agreed to write some alternative language and the Commissioners agreed to review examples of solar “ordinances” in historic communities.

Resignation of Commissioner Consie West and possible replacements.

Chair Kolloff announced the resignation of Commissioner West. Kolloff asked the Commissioners to forward any interested citizens to her.

Other Business:

Scheduling the March 2021 regular meeting. There was earlier concurrence on March 11, 2021, 10 AM, via Zoom.

On a motion by French, seconded by Lawrason, the Development Review Board voted to approve the next meeting date and time as March 11, 2021, 10:00 AM via the Zoom platform. Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 P.M.