

NEWPORT CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

Aug. 1, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Clark Curtis (CC), Vice Chair Robert Currier (RC), Woodman Page (WP), Dan Ross (DR), Ruth Sproull (RS)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Zoning Administrator (ZA) Charles Elliott, Anne Chiarello, Anne Page, Alderwoman Julie Raboin, Colleen Moore-Ortiz, City Manager Laura Dolgin, Mayor Paul Monette, Alderman Denis Chenette, Karen Geraghty of NVDA, Clerk Jim Johnson, Paul Dreher

7:05 p.m. Chair Clark Curtis officially called the Planning Commission meeting to order. Minutes of July 25, 2017 were reviewed. RC made motion to approve, WP seconded. Unanimous approval with Dan Ross abstaining since he wasn't at that meeting.

7:06 p.m. Karen Geraghty (KG) said there's been a development regarding the designated downtown map which appears to be missing (NVDA doesn't have it) from the Municipal Plan. ZA said that the maps were under development when the plan was adopted. KG said that we may have to go through public hearing process to make it part of the Municipal Plan because inclusion of the map is a required part of the Downtown Designation application. WP doesn't remember it. Paul Dreher said that it wasn't included because downtown designation wasn't up for renewal at that time

Vote to formally approve the draft cover letter for the designated downtown application was 3-2 with RC and RS voting no. Motion to accept passes.

Discussion regarding whether public hearings are necessary to include the missing map. The answer was, "yes."

Motion to add language to the municipal plan on page 28, first full paragraph: ...DESIGNATED DOWNTOWN (*shown on map B-4, Appendix X,*) and it should...And label designated downtown map as B4 and place in Appendix X for purpose of amending the 2015 municipal plan at public hearing. RS motion to accept this. RC seconded. Unanimous approval.

Set public hearing date to formally approve changes to the municipal plan (including the designated downtown map). RS made motion to set date for Sept. 5 RC seconded. Unanimous approval.

8:40 p.m. ZA passed out potential language disallowing recreational marijuana sales to the public. We can't do anything on it until it is an agenda item.

9:00 p.m. In Other Business Information shared about the community visit process that Vermont Council on Rural Development will be doing in Newport this fall. The primary contacts around the community visit process are Paul Costello, Executive Director pcostello@vtrural.org and Jenna Koloski, Community and Policy Manager jenna@vtrural.org Link to their website where you can learn more about the community visit process and look at reports from recent community visits. This will be a great opportunity for Newport residents to come together to discuss challenges and opportunities and determine what the priorities should be for the community moving forward. The community will be asked to narrow the priorities down to 3 or 4 and develop a task force responsible for moving the goals forward. It will be important to have as much participation from a wide cross section of the community as possible so please reach out to others and let them know about this upcoming opportunity. There are no dates yet but you can reach out to Jenna and let her know to keep you informed.

<http://vtrural.org/programs/community-visits>

<http://vtrural.org/programs/community-visits/reports>

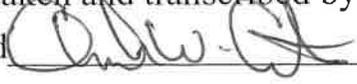
Set date and agenda for next meeting

Aug. 15, 2017 at 7 p.m.

1. Call to order
2. Approve minutes of the Aug. 1, 2017
3. Review Bylaw
4. Review Newport City Municipal Plan
5. Other business
6. Set date and agenda for next meeting
7. Adjourn

9:05 RC made motion to adjourn, WP seconded. All approved.

Minutes taken and transcribed by Ruth Sproull

Approved 

Date 8-15-17