

NEWPORT CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
Minutes of May 19, 2020 Meeting

Members present: John Monette
Mareo Oldacre
Chris Vachon

Others present: Charles Elliott, zoning administrator
Alison Low, NVDA
Paul Monette, Mayor/meeting host

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the meeting was held remotely.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Upon motion made by Chris Vachon and seconded by Mareo Oldacre, the minutes of the May 5, 2020, meeting were unanimously approved.

Upon motion by Chris Vachon and seconded by Mareo Oldacre, it was unanimously voted to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a potential contract regarding development of the comprehensive municipal plan [1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)].

The commission entered executive session at 7:05 PM. Alison Low of NVDA and the mayor were invited to participate, the mayor having been a member of the subcommittee previously appointed for conferring with prospective planning consultants.

The commission resumed public session at 7:20 PM.

Upon motion by Mario Oldacre and seconded by Chris Vachon, it was unanimously voted to authorize the City Manager, in her capacity as grant administrator for the City of Newport, to enter into a working agreement with SE Group for the purpose of consultation and development activities related to preparation of a new comprehensive municipal plan, consistent with the planning grant previously received by the City of Newport and pursuant to the previous direction of the City Council at its August 19, 2019 meeting.

Next steps in the plan development process were briefly discussed. The main agenda item at the next meeting will consist of review of the existing comprehensive downtown and waterfront plans. Other planning efforts dating back to RUDAT in 2009 will subsequently be reviewed to identify common themes, actions that have been undertaken in implementation of the plans and aspects of those plans that should be incorporated into the upcoming municipal plan. It is anticipated that this process may take several meetings to complete.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Minutes taken by the chair, in the absence of the secretary.

(Unofficial until approved)


