

Minutes of Town of Pawlet Planning Commission
Pawlet Town Offices
Monday, November 28, 2011, 7:30 pm

Members in Attendance:

Gary Baierlein
Fred Stone
John Thrasher
Tom Nelson
Harry van Meter
Myron Waite
Karl Eberth

Members Not in Attendance

none

Others in Attendance:

Eric Mach, Zoning Admin.
Jacki Lappen, PPClerk
James Glick
Lenny Gibson

Item 1

Review minutes

Minutes accepted by unanimous agreement.

Item 2

Zoning administrator's report

1. Eric Mach reported that he has approved two zoning permits.
2. Eric reported that our dues to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) are \$875, up \$25 from last year. He also presented a municipal survey from the RRPC asking for comments on their performance, service, training, role, and priorities. Eric and the PPC discussed and answered each question. They rated the RRPC "excellent" on availability, responsiveness, technical assistance, staff competency, and GIS mapping; "below average" on transportation planning and economic development; and "good," "average," or "don't know" on other topics. They also gave "high priority" to assisting municipalities in defining and managing growth and development, natural resource planning, energy planning, and economic development planning.
3. Eric also passed around a booklet written by the VT Landscape Partnership.

Item 3

Discussion on goals and objectives of subdivision regulations

John Thrasher raised the question whether the PPC wants to use RRPC as advisor rather than a private consultant. The RRPC's general role in our drafting subdivision regulations would be to assess compliance with state law, the regional plan, and the Pawlet Town Plan. Rupert used a private consultant and John will ask them about that experience.

Karl Eberth asked whether there are other areas to consider in advance of the grant decision. Discussion ensued on reviewing other towns' regulations, in particular their tables of contents. Karl will bring to the next meeting regulations from Manchester, which are complex, Benson, which are much simpler, and a few from other towns.

John asked the PPC to think about density-based regulations rather than area-based regulations.

Item 4

New business

James Glick raised the issue that the Select Board has appointed Lenny Gibson as Pawlet's alternate to the RRPC (behind Eric Mach), without allowing James to present his qualifications. PPC members discussed that at the PPC's October meeting, they had decided by consensus to recommend James for that position and he had submitted his letter of interest to the Select Board.

PPC members agreed by consensus that both Eric Mach and Fred Stone would attend the Select Board's 11/29 meeting to find out why the Board did not follow this recommendation and to try to get James the opportunity to present his credentials.

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Set agenda for next month's meeting

This agenda item was not tackled.

Meeting adjourned 9:10 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 26.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacki Lappen, Pawlet Planning Commission Clerk