

BARRE TOWN PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 5, 2019

The Town of Barre Planning Commission held a special meeting on **Thursday, December 5, 2019** beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the **Municipal Building**, 149 Websterville Road.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

George Clain, Cedric Sanborn, Michael Gilbar, Debra Pierce, Bryon Atwood, Charles Thygesen, Sr. and Chris Violette

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Chris Violette and Cindy Spaulding

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

1) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Violette requested to add Rock Solid to Agenda item 5 Round Table and announced he will be presenting maps to be included in the Town Plan. Mr. Clain requested to add “regulatory language” to Agenda item 4 Follow up.

2) WORK ON REVIEWING TOWN PLAN PROPOSED REVISIONS

The Commission reviewed and edited Chapter 9: Housing. There were minimum changes to this section. Discussion ensued with concerns on where statistics in the chapter and data tables come from as there is no source referenced. This makes it difficult to updating some of the data.

Highlight discussions:

- Housing and creation of housing
- Future demographics of the town
- Delapidated/Blight Housing

Mr. Violette handed out the St. Monica-St. Michael School narrative to be included in Chapter 6: Education. Mr. Clain requested to have information on how many Barre Town students go to the school.

Mr. Violette presented the following maps to be included in the Town Plan: Utilities & Facilities, Transportation, Transportation, Forest Integrity and Housing Source. He provided an explanation for each map. Forest Integrity will be the next section to be included in the Town Plan.

Mr. Clain reported CVRPC recommends creating a new map showing future development. He suggested to include commercial development along Route 63.

Highlights of discussion:

- Not required to show future commercial development
- Keep development where services are accessible (in low and high density areas)
- Route 63 does not have easy access to services (water, sewer and power)

- Encourage commercial development along Routes 14 and 302.
- Town Plan already has a map showing future development and the vision of Barre Town.

3) **FOLLOW-UP**

Mr. Clain reported he received information from Clare Rock of Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission with regards to question of using regulatory language in the Town Plan. The email suggested to use the regulatory language as it is used in the State of Vermont permitting processes of Act 250 and Act 174 Section 248.

Discussion followed with some board members concerned about making the Town Plan, which is a vision or guide, a regulatory document.

It was suggested to put “regulatory language” on the next meeting’s agenda.

4) **DISCUSS NEXT MEETING DATE**

Next scheduled meeting will be December 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

5) **ROUND TABLE**

Mr. Violette announced Barre Area Development is promoting “ROCK SOLID” at the Barre Opera House on December 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. He encourages members of the Planning Commission to attend. He will be requesting the Development Review Board members to also attend and request the DRB meeting be changed to that location at new time.

6) **ADJOURN!**

A MOTION was made by Mr. Gilbar, to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Pierce and so voted unanimously at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Spaulding

Cedric Sanborn, Chair

Chris Violette

George Clain

Michael Gilbar

Debra Pierce

Byron Atwood

Charles Thygesen, Sr.