

Town of Guilford
Planning Commission Meeting Agenda and notes
19 August 2015

Members: Tanya Balsey*, Harry Evans*, Michelle Frehsee*, Jackie Gaines*, Hal Kuhns, Andy Loughney*, Chuck Clark, Herb Meyers*, Sheila Morse* (Selectboard Liaison) * denotes present at meeting

Call to order 7:02 pm

Recognition of Public: Linda Hecker, Gabby Ciuffreda, Susan James

Old Business:

1. Town Plan in Gazette: Also on front page of Town website; as is the notice of the public hearing on 8/24 at 6:00 pm
2. Update on WRC – hearing on 24th (see above)
3. Plan up on front page of Town’s website: yes

New Business and Communications

1. Conservation Commission: Susan James, presenter.
 - a. Susan presented case for and explanation of the CC plans to submit a MPG grant proposal to implement plans for the Natural Resources Inventory. She indicated it would be helpful in Act 250 hearings, for landowners, and in the case of alternative energy projects. Cost to Town could be 30% of \$15-18K. Grant approval date is end December 2015; disbursement of 30% shortly thereafter; town contribution match is due in FY 2017.
 - b. Harry asked if other towns have completed such an inventory. Dummerston has a unique inventory, based on the expertise of their community residents; Vernon has one that addressed particular issues raised by the (then) presence of Vermont Yankee.
 - c. At the SB meeting, Sheila had asked if there were other parties competing for a MPG, or if this application would prohibit Guilford from a MPG in the near future. Susan indicated that ordinarily an MPG to a town body does not prejudice a town from becoming a recipient subsequently. However, in scoring a grant, if two town applications receive the same score, the town that had already received a grant might be overlooked. Michelle said her research has indicated that, if a town has a strong project, it will get a fair score regardless of prior history of grants. Jackie asked if a landowner’s interests would be overridden by the results of this inventory. The answer is no; the inventory would be used for information purposes only.

- d. Harry moved that the Planning Commission approve the Conservation Commission application for a MPG; Tanya seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. (Hal indicated his approval prior to the meeting because he knew he'd be absent from this meeting.)
2. Discussion of priorities review by members: There was an extended conversation, especially around multiple-layer communications
 - a. BE INFORMED (Gazette - next deadline is October 1st, web, meetings, interpersonal communications, etc.) Guilford Traditions Inventory.
 - b. How do we get people to show up: Marlboro example -- Town-wide yard sale, music festival; scones and coffee at McArthur's farm stand on Sunday...
 - c. ACTIONS: create list of point people, vis-à-vis the Town Plan sections; figure out what the outcome of meetings with these key people should be. Who does what, by when, and how do you measure progress/success. How do we prioritize implementation? Who's already doing what (e.g., who are the point people - current and potential? (Energy Committee, Recreation Commission, SBIS, Grange, Guilford Community Church...))
3. Creating implementation matrix Discussion pending action on above.
4. Village Center designation projects - Algiers Village - application by November...

Minutes approved as read and meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Reminders:

WRC hearing in Guilford for Town Plan on August 24, 2015 at 6 pm in the Town Office

Next public Planning Commission meeting is September 16, 2015 at 7 pm in the Town Office. Perhaps it might be at the Town Grange once we have a clear agenda with a specific list of participants.