

Town of Guilford
Planning Commission Meeting Agenda and Notes

16 July 2014 from 7 - 8:30 pm

Commission Members:

Present: Michelle Frehsee, Jackie Gaines, Hal Kuhns, Andy Loughney, Sheila Morse

Absent: *Tanya Balsley, Chuck Clark, Herb Myers*

The meeting was held in the Town Offices.

Call to order – 7:07 pm

Recognition of Public: Al Franklin, Jr.,

New Business

Michelle noted that we have 4 meetings (two public and two working) left to complete our work before submitting the final draft. So we have to be efficient, keep discussions to the point, and avoid tangential topics. Michelle will exercise her role as chair to keep us on track.

Invitation to Al: (He is “here to listen.”) During the course of the meeting Al noted his concern that Senior Housing projects can become places where seniors are afraid to live. We need to be careful about grant applications which might make stipulations that, if we adhere to them, may open housing to occupants that may make seniors and other town residents feel threatened.

Agenda: Commission members will continue their review of the Goals, Vision, and Action sections drafted for 2015 - 2020 Town Plan. We will then continue reviewing the subsequent sections: Infrastructure, Economy, and Recreation

- Members briefly reviewed the HOUSING section draft that was revised and agreed on by a majority of the Commission in a working meeting on 7.2.2014. **Jackie** raised Guilford’s history of affordable housing, and where section she wrote best fits in the Town Plan. It was agreed to move it to the History section. She voiced a concern about sprawl coming in from Brattleboro. She wanted to know if we can have an Australian Ballot on housing and development issues. Question deferred to Select Board.
- INFRASTRUCTURE: We reviewed this entire section. There are areas we need to check in with Herb and other experts. Mostly it’s approved....
- ECONOMY: we began to work on the current draft material for this topic and realized that we need to do more research on businesses in Guilford and focus on what we can do to assist them moving forward. Sheila will email everyone notes from the only SBIS meeting. We will consider integrating the Business section into the Economy Section, consult with others, draft material independently and share it with other Planning Commission members in advance of our August 6 working meeting.

Approval of Minutes of Meeting:

Andy moved that we approved the minutes... Michelle seconded. Minutes approved.

Adjournment -- 8:30 pm

Reminders:

Next working meeting Wednesday, August 6 at 7 pm in the Town Office

Next regularly scheduled public meeting, Wednesday, August 20 at 7 pm in the Town Office