

Montpelier Planning Commission Meeting
April 23, 2018

Subject to review and approval

Present: Leslie Welts, Kim Cheney, Barbara Conrey, Ariane Kissam, Kirby Keeton, John Adams, Michael Miller.

Call to order by the Chair: The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Leslie Welts.

Approval of the agenda: The agenda had no changes and was deemed approved.

Comments from the Chair: Leslie would like Kim to comment on a meeting he recently attended. She also commented that the city is without a Zoning Administrator. Mike announced that Meredith Strobridge Crandall has been hired and should start in a few weeks.

Kim mentioned that the last he had heard about 250 Main Street, here was an issue of clay and doing any work would make the hill collapse. Mike said they haven't sent any final plans.

Barb sent out a link to NetZeroVermont.

Kim also attended the Historic Preservation meeting where Kirby testified. He has been unable to get any sort of expert to tell him why Cliff Street is in the historic district. Kim did some research of his own and the Cliff Street district was where the first settlers built. Kirby stated that he talked to Eric after the meeting and Eric is interested in working with the planning commission going forward. Ariane mentioned how sometimes historic preservation gets in the way of affordable housing.

Leslie got invited to the new City Council on May 9. Any other commission members are welcome to attend with her. Kim mentioned that design review should be on the list, Leslie feels the commission is more liaison for the map and design review, instead of taking the lead on those two projects.

Leslie understands the commission's priorities to be: # 1 the city plan, # 2 the official map, and # 3 the zoning amendments as needed.

General business (comments from the public about something not on the agenda): There was no one from the public in attendance.

City Plan update discussion – update on plans for kickoff meeting with “all committees”:

Mike met with the Conservation Commission with maps he'd collected from other towns. Some members of the Parks Commission were also there. He is on some listservs where other communities are discussing what worked, what didn't. The Conservation and Parks Commissions are reviewing the maps and deciding where they might want parks or trails. They are going to fine tune the maps. While they are doing that, Mike will work on a map ordinance.

Mike also met with the Housing Taskforce.

Mike will check if Seth can attend the next meeting to decide on the details for the Google Docs for the various committees to review the City Plan. Various venues were discussed to have the kickoff meeting. Leslie will check with Lost Nation to get an idea of their availability. She will also have a draft letter announcing the meeting.

Consider minutes from March 26, 2018: Kim made a motion to approve the minutes as printed, John seconded. The motion passed on a 6-0 vote.

Adjournment: Barbara made a motion to adjourn, Kim seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Tami Furry
Recording Secretary