

Royalton Planning Commission

APPROVED – Minutes

Monday, October 27, 2008

Members Attending:

Beguin, Boles, Brandau, Goldstein, Gravel, Judge, Levasseur, Turner

Guests Attending:

Sally Hull of TRORC, Kira Bryers (Note Taker)

Meeting came to order at 7:05 PM.

1. Minutes from October 13, 2008 Meeting

- No corrections to minutes.
- Judge moved to accept, Goldstein seconds. Beguin and Turner abstain. All others in favor. Motion carries as accepted.

2. Announcements

- Times and Seasons hearing is postponed to November 14, 2008 at the request of the applicant
- On November 24, 2008, Chuck Wise will discuss the Park and Ride

3. Town Plan

- Draft #3 discussed with Sally Hull of TRORC
- Discussion ensued about the status of the edits
- Levasseur described changes that have not yet gone through Hull
- Page 1: Paragraph 1 changed and Paragraph 2 changed from: “A blueprint for how those policies would be expanded and implemented” to “A blueprint for how those policies could be expanded and implemented”
- Hull raised questions she has about the Town Plan and inquired about how to most effectively communicate her questions to the RPC
- Page 3: Funding sources stays as-is, implementation strategies that occur independently is taken out
- Page 3: Road Access Ordinance should be changed to “Highway Access Ordinance”
- Ordinances will be listed and their definitions taken out. Levasseur received a list of ordinances to put into the town plan: Alcoholic Beverages, Animal Control, Recycling, Onsite Sewer, Pollution Abatement Sewer Use, Pollution Abatement Sewer Facility Function, Traffic, Road Naming, Telecommunications Facilities,

Floodplain Bylaw, Regulation and Disposal of Solid Waste, Regulation of Public Right-of-Way, Regulating Nonmotor Vehicles, ATV – uncertainty of whether or not these are the true names of ordinances

- Discussion ensued on where to find ordinance names and where the master list is
- Beguin asked if regulations will be separated from plans
- Hull suggested defining the ones that impact land use. Brandau asked which ones would be applicable, and Hull suggested Onsite Sewage, Flood Hazard, Official Map, etc.
- Goldstein stated that the ordinances should be in the Plan
- Brandau suggested a subcommittee of Nate, Hull and Levasseur to determine which ordinances to put in the final plan
- Dog Ordinance will likely come out
- Parking, ATV, Nonmotorized Vehicle and Alcoholic Beverages Ordinances may also come out
- Brandau asked if Solid Waste, Emergency Management, Onsite Sewer, and Official Map should be listed. Levasseur stated that they should be listed
- “Road” changed to “Highway” in “Highway Policy.” All in favor of the change
- Page 5: Nonregulatory Materials – current use added. Hull created a definition called “Current Use (Use Value Appraisals)”
- Pages 6 and 7: “Lots of changes made” – changes made over time. Nothing specific from the last meeting
- Alan suggested that Figure 1 on Page 6 (1970-2006) needs a title change because it stops at 2000. It will be changed to stop at 2000
- First paragraph below the chart: “Between 1970 and 2000 has exploded” – “has” will be taken out
- “Or” amended to “Or by.” “Exploded” changed to “grew”
- “Only since the beginning of this century, has Royalton’s population been slowly declining” taken out
- Goals on Page 9: Alan suggested that #2 and #3 seem redundant, but they will be kept as-is
- September 8, 2008 Minutes – Beginning on Page 9: “If recommendations are made, they’ll include the word ‘should,’ and if policies are made, they’ll include the word ‘shall.’” – Hull will go with actual edits, not broad-based ones
- Recommendations - #4 – “As addressed later in this chapter” added to the end of the sentence
- Gravel asked about how Act 250 would interpret this section. Levasseur stated that policies are stronger than the recommendations
- Judge asked what the “Cultural Resources” are – Brandau suggested that they include village greens, covered bridges, churches, etc. Alan suggested that cultural and historic need to be differentiated. Levasseur suggested “Historic and Cultural” be used
- Hull discussed various sections that fall under “natural” instead of cultural (or some that overlap)
- “Cultural resources” taken out – only “Natural and Historic Resources” will be listed

- #5 “Funding and Training” – Goldstein asked about the meaning of “Certified Local Government Status.” Discussion ensued (John Dumville will be asked about the meaning of this certification)
- #9 – “Should conform” changed to “shall be consistent with.” Moved to Policies and now headed “Development Criteria”
- #10 – By vote, this item will be stricken
- #11 will change to #9. Discussion ensued over Act 250 covering extraction. Zoning must be consistent with Town Plan. Hull stated that this item must be included to pass the zoning requirement
- Page 10: Second bullet under #1 in Policies will be stricken
- Goldstein read an item about a VT Supreme Court case that ruled that a Town Plan did not back up their town’s regulations, so appellant got his/her permit – zoning must be consistent with Town Plan
- Discussion ensued about zoning/town planning
- Hull suggested that “Sign and Parking Recommendations” be addressed in Chapter 4, because it should not be limited to “historic”
- Policies: Heading One becomes “Development Criteria.” Second bullet deleted completely, Third bullet keeps the first sentence and deletes the rest, Fourth bullet deleted completely
- As a policy, will be severely restricted needs to be clarified. Development Criteria. First bullet changed from “All land development shall be conducted in a manner to prevent erosion added” to “All land development on slopes greater than 25% shall be severely restrictive; vegetative cover shall be retained in these areas.” Discussion ensued
- Resource Land and Natural Areas: Turner stated that the Good forestry practices bullet is not specific enough. Turner also stated that he needed more time to review and make suggestions to the paragraph. Discussion ensued → the purpose of this paragraph is good, responsible forestry management
- Bullet #1 under Item 2 – “Forest land is sufficient.” Strike “forestry” from the sentence. Change semi-colon to a period.
- Bullet #3 – “Where possible” – Turner stated that this item is vague.
- “Will” will be changed to “should.”

4. Next Meeting

The next RPC meeting will be held on November 10, 2008.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

Judge moved to adjourn and Turner seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kira Bryers
kira.bryers@gmail.com