

Craftsbury Planning Commision Draft Minutes of December 13, 2023 Meeting

Present: David Koschak, Farley Brown, Alison Low (NVDA), Ross Davis, Gordy Waterhouse, Lucas Shulz, Reed Holden, Susie Houston (Selectboard), Linda Ramsdell (guest), David Stoner (guest)

1. Approval of November 15th Minutes. Lucas motions to approve, seconded by Ross.
2. Town Plan
 - a. Public Survey Summary:
 - i. Narrative provides valuable insights and highlights potential tensions.
 - ii. As a next step, Farley suggests we tease out major themes from these comments in our original working groups. Farley will send an email with details.
 - iii. Other community partners that would be beneficial for the Planning Commision to meet with include the Freedom & Unity task force, Craftsbury Saplings, and the Mental Health Committee.
 - iv. David questions whether some of these objectives lack awareness versus lack support.
 - b. Affordable Housing:
 - i. An informal group has been meeting to discuss affordable housing in the area.
 - ii. The group has investigated home sharing, ADUs, conversion of existing structures, establishing a community housing trust, and communication strategies to inform the public.
 - iii. There already has already been a forum regarding ADUs; there is a link to the meeting on the church website.
 - iv. Future considerations should include state regulations (specifically Act 250).
 - v. David Stoner stressed the importance of prioritizing affordable housing in a town plan; Linda reiterated that while engaged citizens have the possibility to effect change, we also need commitment at the leadership level; their intention in meeting with the Planning Commission was to provide an update and to ask for partnership in advancing affordable housing objectives.
 - vi. Alison suggests that this town plan includes a more strategic and data-driven housing profile, and that it may be helpful for the town plan rewrite to include adaptive reuse policies.
 - vii. Meaningful housing data would be useful to have at the next meeting so we can have a sense of magnitude and next steps; we need housing for who is here now and for who we might need here in the future.
 - c. Community Values Mapping:
 - i. Need to execute this project to bring Act 171 into the town plan.
 - ii. Need two volunteers from the Planning Commission to learn how to facilitate a session and do the mapping components; Gordy, David,

Farley, and possibly Lucas will join Jens Hilke and Alison for this. Training will happen in January (possibly the 8th or 10th) with the meeting to happen in February.

3. Town Report Planning Commission Draft Report: Farley will draft and submit the report.

4. Other Business: Gordy asked about Reed's ability to vote. Farley reiterated that alternate members are authorized to vote if there is no quorum otherwise, per the Selectboard.

Ross makes a motion to adjourn; seconded by David. Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.

Next meeting will be January 17, 2024 at 7:00PM.