

DRAFT Minutes of July 9 2020 Planning Commission Meeting

The Planning Commission met outside on CraftsburyCommon on July 9, 2020. This was the first meeting since the pandemic began, and as it was a perfect summer night we were able to meet in person with social distance and masks.

Present: Emily Maclure, Rudy Chase, Farley Brown, Linda Ramsdell, Annie Rowell, Dave Rowell, Ross Davis, Susan Houston. Emily's daughter Esme was a welcome guest.

Agenda:

1. Approval of February minutes

The minutes of the February 13th meeting were approved with one change: Rudy Chase was present at the February 13th meeting.

2. Update on the Craftsbury Community Trust - Emily (5 minutes)

Emily updated the Planning Commission on the possible formation of a Craftsbury Community Trust. The pandemic has highlighted the ways that the town could benefit by having such an organization. For example, a community trust could be an ideal vehicle to raise money and attract grants for a food pantry in Craftsbury, a need that has arisen since our February meeting. While a legion of volunteers and the town are making a food pantry possible currently, a long term solution may be needed. Discussions about a community trust are ongoing.

3. Craftsbury Common Community Water System proposed ordinance - Farley (10 minutes)

The selectboard is looking for guidance on the ordinance. The planning commission had many questions and did not feel like we had enough information at hand to offer guidance.

4. Town Plan language for the Radical Justice and Equity Task Force - Farley (15 minutes)

The planning commission revisited the language in the Town Plan that addresses the characteristics of the town that people envisioned and articulated at the Community Visit, and was subsequently adopted as part of the Town Plan in 2016. At the July 7 meeting of the Craftsbury Selectboard, the selectboard established a Racial Justice and Equity Task Force. The planning commission discussed the language in the town plan, and a resolution adopted by the Hardwick Selectboard in June, as a resource for the Craftsbury Selectboard to use as they consider making a statement against racism in Craftsbury.

5. Next steps: affordable housing research; wastewater in Village; parking in Village

The planning commission discussed the pandemic related spike in the real estate market, and the ongoing need for affordable housing in the area, and the continued challenge of imagining what this would look like for Craftsbury. The need for village infrastructure was reiterated, and to

help us learn more Farley will invite Lynnette Claudon from the VT Department of Environmental Conservation to the September meeting. Lynnette has been working with the towns of Burke and Wolcott as they address wastewater issues in the towns.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Ramsdell

PLANNING COMMISSION FEBRUARY 13 2020 MINUTES DRAFT

Present: Emily Mclure, Ross Davis, Linda Ramsdell, Farley Brown, Lucas Schulz, Susan Houston

Minutes of the January 9, 2020 meeting were approved.

Harry Miller informed the Planning Commission on the School Board's process to replace the elementary school with a new building. Harry highlighted the many ways that the school board's plans align with the Craftsbury Town Plan and asked the planning commission for support. A new elementary school, as envisioned by the school board, would include care and education for children aged infant - grade 5.

The school board's vision goes beyond thinking about a new building, and includes moving the town offices to the current elementary school building, and renovating the town hall so that it will again be available for community events. The new school is planned for Dustan Field.

The board's goal is to have a bond vote on voting day in November.

Susie emphasized that it is important to consider all of the big ticket items that will be coming before voters, including replacing the bridge in the village.

The board discussed the agenda for the upcoming months, which will include further discussion of wastewater infrastructure. Emily stated that there is funding for shared wastewater systems. Goals of the planning commission for the coming months include investigating the possibility of municipal planning grants to develop systems, inviting wastewater professionals to future meetings and convening business owners in the village who might be part of a future wastewater system.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Ramsdell

Craftsbury 2016 Town Plan

The Craftsbury Selectboard adopted the revised Craftsbury Town Plan in 2016. The town plan includes a vision statement produced at the Community Visit series in 2015.

Craftsbury residents look to a future for the community where:

- *Craftsbury is an inclusive community where people from all backgrounds and identities feel welcome and at home. It is a multi-generational community for residents of all ages.*
- *Craftsbury is a safe place for our most vulnerable, the very young and very old. Nobody goes hungry or is food insecure, and affordable housing and emergency services are available to all.*
- *Craftsbury is a community of neighbors where residents are neighborly to those next door as well as those that live across town. Residents engage in respectful and civil dialogue and are well practiced in those skills.*

Hardwick Select Board - June 23, 2020 Resolution

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Hardwick Select Board to consider the well-being of all people in our town; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hardwick strives to be a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community, where all people regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity or expression of sexual orientation, immigration status, religious or political affiliation can feel protected, included, secure, safe, and ensured of equal justice under the law; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge both recent and past evidence of violence against Black and marginalized people; and

WHEREAS, many forms of discrimination, including physical violence, are being used to support an unfair system of advantage for white people; and

WHEREAS, we have seen the intimidation and bullying of marginalized people in our own town; and

WHEREAS, using violence and intimidation are in direct conflict with basic human rights as well as the ideals of Democracy; and

WHEREAS, we endorse Black Lives Matter; therefore be it Resolved by the Hardwick Select Board:

Resolved: That the Select Board of the Town of Hardwick will form an Equity Committee to make recommendations to the Select Board and assist in the implementation of methods to further educate ourselves, our employees and our community about white privilege, cultures of dominance, racism, implicit and explicit bias, and the history and experience of people of color and other marginalized groups, and

Resolved: That the Select Board of the Town of Hardwick will solicit, include, and welcome voices of all marginalized people, and

Resolved: That the Select Board of the Town of Hardwick will work toward ending systemic racism through our policies, buying power, and actions, and

Resolved: That the Select Board of the Town of Hardwick will support the well-being of all people living and working here