

Craftsbury Planning Commission
January 15, 2015

Minutes

Present: Farley Brown, Sharon Moffatt, Emily McClure, Annie Rowell, Tony Jones, Tim Patterson, Alison Low (NVDA), Ned Houston, Matthew Derr, Stark Biddle, Susan Houston, Dave Rowell

1. Approve December 18, 2014 minutes (postponed to next meeting)
2. Information on the Sterling College Solar Project – Matthew Derr and Ned Houston, Sterling College (20 minutes). Matthew gave history of project, including Sterling College's intention to divest from fossil fuels. All Earth Renewables would be a partner in the project; the solar trackers would not be owned by the College. The proposed site was chosen for a variety of reasons, including proximity to power, exposure to available sunlight etc. The College is waiting to hear from the Public Service Board on the application, which is contingent on hearing from the Agency of Natural Resources about the impact on the nearby wetlands. The PSB opened the project to public comment until January 5. They are compiling those comments and will recommend mitigations as a result. Concerns were raised about the impact of this, and similar, projects on the cost of power to the rest of the town. Further questions should be directed to Ned Houston.
3. Craftsbury Town Plan Rewrite:
 - Review of sections (summary of section and information/resources we might need for the rewrite).
Alison Low from NVDA explained that many of the updates required by the State since the last town plan have focused on flood resiliency, river corridors, and flood maps.
 - Land Use – Farley, Gordy raised the question of wording to address issues such as those which were raised by the wind tower project. Alison suggested we look at Charleston's town plan for wording about projects which may affect much of the town. Also Westmore's. Farley asked for Dave's help on some of the specifics of this section: acreage, use.
 - Cultural Aspects – Emily
 - The Economy – Emily and Dave
 - Agriculture – Annie and Gordy
 - Historic Craftsbury - Sharon
 - Natural Heritage – Farley/Conservation Commission
 - Utilities and Facilities – Tim

- Energy – Energy Committee
- Education – Sharon
- Housing – Tim and Dave/Alison Low, NVDA. Alison suggests looking at household data from the census for information about what kinds of housing are needed in town.
- Transportation – Tony
- Recreation – Annie
- Flood Resilience – Farley/Alison Low, NVDA

4. Other Issues: appointing a new member. Suggested Stark Biddle, Sung-Hee Chung, Mike Martin.

Next meeting: February 19, 7:00, Town Hall. Will talk about Cultural, Economy, Natural Heritage.