

## Craftsbury Planning Commission Draft Minutes of July 19, 2023 Meeting

Present at Town Hall: Farley Brown, Chair, Lucas Schultz, Alison Blaney, David Kochak, Reed Holden, Ross Davis, Phil Lovely, Alison Low (NVDA vis OWL), Susan Houston, Select Board

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm

1. Approval of June 21, 2023, minutes: Discussion of role of alternate members concluded that the alternate members are authorized to vote. So moved by Lucas, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ross. Approved. Point of importance: Draft minutes need to be sent to Michelle Warren within 5 days of meeting. Farley moved to accept minutes and Alison 2<sup>nd</sup>. Minutes accepted.
2. Alison Low led group through discussion of rewrite of Town Plan. She shared her document; "Craftsbury Town Plan Theme: Community Connections" wherein she distilled the key elements of the 2016 into 4 major themes. Alison stated that each section/theme should have a strong introduction and a vision statement followed by a description of existing conditions and proposed goals for the next Town Plan. Our goal is a more streamlined, useful, and visionary document. E.g., the first theme, "Building Social Capital", is an opportunity to share a sense of the community and people helping people; an inclusive working community. Note: Alison avoided including action steps until the PC agreed to the goals. Action steps could be together at the end of the plan, a single chapter at the end. The format Alison uses makes for a highly readable and accessible document.

Farley stated that the PC needed to break out into working groups for each theme and use action steps from last plan.

Alison then walked PC through the themes. Brief recap:

Building Social Capital: Discussed above.

Cultural Connections: should include role of recreation, schools and how they contribute to cultural life, including the historical society's role in enriching the community. The 2015 survey showed strong need to maintain and build a relationship with Academy, Sterling and the Outdoor Center. Compare and contrast 2023 with the 2016 Plan.

Ecological Connections: This would suggest link to Conservation Commission, including their workshops. Most effective would be to promote resilience. Act 171 would be in this section.

Services and Infrastructure: Responsibility and decision-making lie with local government. It would make sense to link this working group with the energy committee. Susan urged that Craftsbury's many committees and groups are mentioned.

Committees were then formed for each theme:

1. Social Capital: David Kochak and Alison Blaney
2. Cultural Connections: Reed Holden and Phil Lovely

- 3. Ecological Connections: Gordon Waterhouse (tentative), Ross Davis and Farley Brown**
- 4. Services and Infrastructure: Lucas Schulz, David Rowell and Rudy Chase**

**Alison Low then shared a draft set of questions to help focus in each area.**

**Goals for next meeting: Complete question sheet and start of draft for each theme.**

**Note that item 3 on agenda was passed over.**

**4. Develop and finalize schedule... Farley shared the timetable for completing the new town plan. It includes two public meetings, each of which will take place out of doors.**

**Other business: Update: Current use map is almost ready. It was recommended to reserve time at a future meeting to look at maps (e.g., November meeting)**

**Next meeting Wednesday, August 16 at 7:00pm**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm**

	start date	No later than	Duration
Grant period	3/1/2023	1/31/2025	702
Plan Kickoff	4/15/2023	7/19/2023	95
Actions and Objectives Survey	8/23/2023	12/31/2023	130
Community Recreation Outing #1	9/1/2023	10/31/2023	60
Community Recreation Outing #2	12/1/2023	1/31/2024	61
Map updates to plan	4/19/2023	1/31/2024	287
Community Asset Mapping	1/31/2024	2/28/2024	28
Public Workshop on Land Regulatory techniques	1/31/2024	2/28/2024	28
Write and Develop Plan Update	5/4/2023	3/31/2024	332
Adoption Process	4/15/2024	6/14/2024	60

Planning Commission Timetable  
for 2025 Town Plan Adoption