



Dummerston Planning Commission

Approved Minutes

February 5, 2013

Meeting called to order: 6:32 PM

Members Present: Sam Farwell, Rich Cogliano, Cindy Wilcox, Deb Forrett, Bill Schmidt, Steve Glabach, Andrew MacFarland, Beverly Tier

Absent: Annamarie Pluhar

Public Present: Maria Glabach, Charlotte Annis

1. Approve minutes of 1/2/13

Steve Motion to approve minutes, Cindy seconds. Motion Passes

2. Public Comment

3. Correspondence

Zoning Administrator's report

The Zoning Administrator expressed that the Planning Commission should strive to keep in mind the real purpose of us being here is to help the homeowner, determine what appropriate accessory uses for properties are, protect the environment, and protect the abutter. How do we protect the single family resident and protect their neighbors as well? Zoning can be punitive in a way and we should not go further in that direction.

Discussion was held on a recent DRB case and subsequent appeal to the Vermont Environmental Court

4. Special Events

Writing committee report

Andrew reviewed the special event language. Discussion was held on whether this was needed or not and also about the inclusion on Agri-tourism. Discussion was held on three definitions of Agri-tourism as it relates to special events. There was consensus to Change "selectboard" to "town" in second section of section 690. Andrew motions to send Special Events with changes to public hearing, Cindy seconds. Motion Passed

5. Agri-Tourism

Agri-tourism definition was discussed

Andrew motions to approve 3rd definition with changes, Deb seconds. Motions Passed.

Andrew motions to make Agri-tourism a conditional use in all districts, Cindy seconds. Motions passed.

6. Municipal Planning Grant – Corridors project

Review contract with WRC

The contract was reviewed with discussion about the wording including the final report of the corridor committee as well as that of the “minority report” of that committee.

Deb motions to remove “s” on reports from contract and that the information is submitted to WRC by the planning commission chair in Tasks 2 and 3 of Scope of Work. Steve Seconds. Bill amends to include “and other available information,” Cindy seconds, Amendment passed. Motion passed.

Review timeline for completing amendments by grant deadline

Sam passed out a draft schedule for completion of zoning map, zoning bylaws, corridors, and Municipal Planning Grant to be completed by May 2014. General consensus was that this is a tight timeframe, but certainly workable

7. Other business

Items for next meeting;
Discuss procedure for work session on map

Cindy expressed her positive reaction of Bill Gunther’s presentation on the forests at the Grange last week. Her takeaway is two-fold:

1. We should change “resource” to productive resource or some more accurate terminology
2. Determine which lands in town are productive forests that could be added to resource.

8. Adjourn – 8:37 PM

Selectboard hearing on bylaw amendments, Wednesday, February 20

Work Session on bylaw update: Tuesday, February 26 Location TBD

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, March 5, 5:30 PM at Town Office