

Dummerston Planning Commission

Dummerston Town Offices

APRIL 7th, 2009

Convened 5:00pm

Present: Steve, Elizabeth, Bob, David, Cindy, Reg, Corin, Charlotte

Minutes of March 10th were approved.

Steve reported that the Energy Committee met with Sue Fillion and did not quite have enough information to complete the energy portion of the Town Plan and Sue gave them an 'extension' for completion (before April 17th?)

In trying to schedule the All Boards Meeting date... The DPC May meeting is the training session at the Putney Firehouse... (Cindy will email Steve digital copy of current By-Laws for sending to Sarah).

Hearings for the Town Plan is proposed for June 2 (needs to be warned at least 15 days prior).

The date of MAY 20th was proposed for the ALL BOARDS MEETING. This allows the other boards to weigh in before our 1st Hearing.

Town Plan plan:

Elizabeth is going to announce the hearing (etc.) in the Views (deadline is next week). Other input for the article was discussed- letting the town know what the changes are... this is a "consolidated" plan (vision statements?) Steve expressed concern about somehow setting the stage for the potentially contentious Land Use changes...

Do we want feedback on the draft via the town website? A comments section? Elizabeth will talk with Kevin Ryan about that.

How many printed copies do we need? Reg is going to check with VLCT to see if we can send it digitally (to abutting towns, etc.)... we could save a lot of cost and headache if we can use digital copies (via email or just CDR). Let's be cutting edge!

We will have to send the Draft out 30 days before the 1st public hearing to abutters, Planning Commissions, WRC etc... so May 1st !

It was agreed that we can stick with our timeline. If there are changes needed after the June hearing, we can still do a second hearing and come close to the August 11th deadline for adoption of the new plan. The Selectboard can warn their hearing prior to our hearing...

Elizabeth found our old Q&A about zoning changes for residents from the last time, and will be able to use most of the language for a new version. Ideas for how to get this out to residents was discussed- it is too long for Views... online option?

There is an MPG meeting Wednesday morning at 8:30.

Also April 17th 11:30

Also Friday May 1st. 11:30

Charlotte had a few questions:

Conditional Use Permit- Property is going to be sold. The one-year limit of dis-use will be up in June. It would simply cease and become a 'dwelling' or accessory dwelling as a permitted use in Rural Res zone..

Home Business question- is it permitted in certain zones without a DRB hearing? It was suggested that this be changed in the zoning somehow so that there is at least some oversight. It was mentioned that the whole definition of Home Business needs to be re-addressed anyway and that may be part of the zoning re-write.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.