

## **Dummerston Planning Commission**

Dummerston Town Offices

**SEPT 15th, 2009**

Convened 5:00pm

Present: Steve, Elizabeth, Bob, David, Cindy, Reg, Corin, and Tom Johnson

With regards to the Town Plan and the process to complete it: The Selectboard decided to use 4 of it's next meetings as forums/worksessions on the 4 areas of the town plan that may need revision starting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of Sept. at the Grange. Land Use will be Oct 7<sup>th</sup>. All DPC members will try to attend to offer explanations as needed. While the 8 plus week delay seems long, we agreed that whatever is decided in each SB meeting by Section can be started immediately after each SB meeting (provided their directions are rendered right there...). Bob and Elizabeth would at least be able to start on the Land Use section after Oct 7<sup>th</sup>.

Steve is going to ask Pam about finding additional budget sources for both our re-mapping needs for the plan (almost immediately) and the need for more \$ to hopefully match the MPG that was only 50% of our already lowest cost estimate.

Elizabeth is contacting Jim at WRC to ask about WRC personnel assignments to our Zoning update. The concern is that with only 50% of what we 'needed' we absolutely have to be efficient with whatever WRC time we use for the re-write. It would be great to have the best zoning expert available to us for efficiency.

Bob suggested that Charlotte or Cyndi look at the New Revised MPG contract for how the final report language reads...

Tom Johnson reiterated his concern about the proposed Town Plan; He said that he saw the new maps back in 2006 and was very upset about how his land was designated... It was pointed out that he clearly knew well in advance about the upcoming changes and asked why he had waited until now to tell us.

It was noted that there were some complaints that the PC had not responded or acknowledged receipt of various written Comments from townspeople. Laurie would be willing to send a thank you (as they do for the SB) IF and only if the PC were checking the mailbox more frequently so that she was not sending a thank-you for things that weren't even read. Elizabeth (with Reg as backup) agreed to cover this as she is right there a couple of times a week (as Steve often goes weeks without driving anywhere near the Town Office).

Elizabeth will be using the next Views of Dummerston article to educate folks on what a Town Plan is and explain our process in hopes that some of the recent kerfuffle will get straightened out. Tom Johnson pointed out that some folks in Town had no clue about the Town Plan until they read about it in the Reformer... (despite years of work,

workshops, community events and other announcements). It was noted that getting a Press Release printed was a difficult matter and not necessarily a solution. Short of knocking on doors, we may need to find even more creative outreach

Elizabeth is also approaching Kevin Ryan about getting our website more populated with relevant material. Starting with all of the Views articles, maybe some maps, PDFs of the Plan and Zoning Regs, meeting Minutes, etc. Ideas are welcome.

Meeting adjourned shortly after 7pm.