

Approved Minutes: Marlboro Planning Commission, August 11, 2020

In attendance through Zoom video conference: Bennett Grout, Staley McDermet, Edie Mas, Jennifer Girouard, Matt Tell, Mary Sargent, Tim Segar, Patti Smith, William Shakespeare

Meeting opened at 5:10 pm

Minutes: Minutes from July 14th approved unanimously.

Communications

July 15 On July 23rd from 6:30-8:30pm, the Local Solutions and Community Action Team invites you to join a virtual COVID-19 recovery discussion to connect with others in the Windham Region to:

- Share challenges and ideas for community response and recovery
- Connect to others working to respond, recover, and build long-term resilience
- Meet with a "visiting team" of state, federal, business, and non-profit leaders who will share recovery strategies from across the state and ideas for resources and support.
- To Register Visit: www.vtrural.org/recovery/windham

July 15 For WRC assistance with the preparation of an MPG application, John Benn requested contact by August 7th at johnbenn@windhamregional.org or 802-257-4547 x110

July 16th Received from Wilmington Zoning changes to their zoning regulations.

July 17 Vermont Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Cares Act. Sole Proprietor Stabilization Grant Program Set to Launch. Program breakdown, full eligibility requirements, application materials and timelines, as well as technical assistance and FAQs can be found at: <https://www.vermont-cdbg-cv.com/>

July 17 John Bennett at WRC regarding the sale of Marlboro College: "We would look forward to engaging in conversation with the town, be it with the Planning Commission and/or the Selectboard, about how the WRC may be able to help Marlboro assess and plan for the transition."

July 17 An emergency Selectboard meeting on 7/2/20 with members of the DB Steering Committee for campus that is open to the public.

July 21 First Cycle of CERF+'s COVID-19 Relief Grant for Artists Closes at 5 PM ET on Wednesday, 7/29/20. The [COVID-19 Relief Grant](#) will provide one-time \$1,000 grants to artists working in craft disciplines who are facing dire food, housing, and medical insecurities caused by the pandemic.

July 23 First Cycle of CERF+'s COVID-19 Relief Grant for Artists closes at 5pm on 7/29/20 and the second cycle will open for applications on Wednesday, 8/19/20 and close on 9/9/20.

July 24 Chris Campany at WRC. The 2020 Census response rate is currently 44.4% for Windham County, 48.8% for Bennington County, and 49.2% for Windsor County. I encourage you to do

whatever you can to increase the response rate in your respective community. To that end I am passing along resources that may help you with your outreach.

July 24 Act 250 Issuance of Permit and COS, #2W0245-22, Marlboro College Trails. This permit specifically authorizes the redevelopment and widening of existing Nordic ski trails and construction of a new trail for a 1.7 kilometer Nordic ski racing trail loop that will be 20 feet wide with a grass surface. Submitted by Rebecca L. Bezanson NRB Act 250 Technician

July 27 The 2020 VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program is now open. Applications are due by Wednesday, September 30 at 1 PM. For a copy of the VTrans 2020 Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program Guide and to access the application: <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/bike-ped>.

July 27 The Department of Housing and Community Development and the Congress of New Urbanism have published a manual for towns, "Enabling Better Places: A Zoning Guide for Vermont Neighborhoods," that offers suggestions for incremental changes to increase housing access and affordability.

July 29 Ashley Bies from the Conservation Commission on the role of private consultants in the Environmental Consultant process and whether there should be any improvements made to the EC process.

August 5 The Southern Vermont Economy Project hosts the quick hit webinar series called "[*Knowledge Bites*](#)," focused on providing introductory information about economic and community development tools, programs, and funding opportunities.

Tuesday, August 25th at Noon

Presenters: Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development

Topic: CDBG Cares Act Funding for Municipalities and Nonprofits-Municipal Public Service Program

Discussion

- The Department of Housing and Community Development and the Congress for New Urbanism produced a new manual, "Enabling Better Places: A Zoning Guide for Vermont Neighborhood," after a year of work with six Vermont communities. The manual offers suggestions for incremental changes to increase housing access and affordability. We discussed adding an action step to the Marlboro Town Plan that recommends reviewing this guide and using it as a reference. We plan to add this action step at the next Planning Board meeting.
- The FFA has raised the height limit of towers (e.g. windmill and cell) from 149 feet to 200ft before it needs lights.
- There is a de facto Marlboro Cemetery Committee of Linda Peters and Forrest Holzapfel and Jesse Kreitzer.
- Discussion of the Planning Commission's role in maintaining trail systems in the town. We will explore this issue by reviewing other town language on trails (such as Shrewsbury) and consider whether to include an action step in the Marlboro Town Plan.

Continued Discussion of Town Plan revisions

Discussion and editing of the Town Plan including the Enhanced Energy Element component.

Adjourned at 6:20 PM Next Meeting will be September 8th

Respectfully submitted,
Don Sherefkin and Jennifer Girouard