

Approved Minutes: Marlboro Planning Commission, November 10, 2020

In attendance through Zoom video conference: Staley McDermet, Matt Tell, Mary Sargent, Tim Segar, Patti Smith, Will Shakespeare, Edie Mas

Meeting opened at 5:04 pm

Minutes: Minutes from October 13th approved unanimously.

Communications

- Oct. 14 Training for Planning, Zoning and Land Use Boards/Commissions.
 Officials from the Vermont Superior Court's Environmental Division will conduct a focused review for local land use board members on how to make and write good decisions. Thursday, Oct. 22, 10:00-11:30 AM
- Oct. 19 Edie shared the Summary of Windham County Activities, which includes:
 -Placed our pedestrian counting equipment to gather data for two weeks at two locations in Vernon, three locations in Wilmington, two locations in Dummerston, four locations in Brattleboro, two locations in Putney, one location in Searsburg, two locations in Marlboro, and four locations in Stratton.
 -Planning assistance for Marlboro regarding cemetery expansion and regarding town plan status and eligibility for VTrans Bike/Ped grants.
 -Through the GRWA, discussed beavers and flood resiliency programming with Halifax Conservation Commission and Marlboro.
- Oct. 22 Bennett Grout notified the Select Board of his immediate resignation from the Planning Commission.
- Oct. 26 VTrans is working on a Corridor Management Plan for Route 9 between VT-279 in Bennington and I-91 in Brattleboro and is collecting information from businesses, residents, workers and travelers about needs and concerns along the roadway. VTrans will then consider all the needs and concerns so they can evaluate next steps and partnerships, identifying practical short-term projects as well as longer term projects.
 Join us for an online stakeholders meeting! Thursday, Dec. 3, 2020, 6:30pm – 8pm
 For more info and to register, visit <https://bit.ly/3jNUUEY>.
- Oct. 26 Staley indicates that he will fulfill Bennett's position as Chair of the Planning Commission until our next meeting.
- Nov. 4 VTrans Route 9 Corridor Stakeholders Meeting at WRC Transportation Committee
 They are seeking input from regional stakeholders on the current condition of Route 9 to help guide the development of a long term plan for this East-West thoroughfare.
Representatives from the Vermont Agency of Transportation will present on the current conditions of Route 9 and the major goals of the corridor plan. This will be followed by an extended opportunity for public comment.
 Monday, November 9, 2020 4:00 PM-5:15 PM
 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82542810513?pwd=VGRvOFN3U05aNXVuTXZQVlpKNnBEZz09>

Nov. 5

Making Fund Finding Fun: A Three Part Grant Writing Workshop

This grant writing workshop provides concrete, practical guidance for preparing successful grant proposals. The workshop will address how to organize proposals; develop clear goals, objectives and tasks; and build a compelling case to effectively “sell” programs to funders.

Trainer: [Anne Lezak, ADL Consulting](#)

Day 1: November 18th, 1-4:30 pm

Basic Tenets of Proposal Writing

Making Your Case: Using Data

Making Your Case: Telling Your Story

Goals and Objectives

Developing Project Goals Breakout Session; Share and Critique

Wrap-Up; Q & A

Day 2: November 19th, 9 am-12:30 pm

Brief Recap of Goals and Objectives

Developing Measurable Objectives

Creating Tasks to Carry Out Objectives

Creating Tasks Breakout Session; Share and Critique

Collaboration and Partnerships

Tips and Tricks

Q & A and Closing

Day 3: November 20th, 8:30-9:30 am (presentation)

You Got the Grant! Now What?: Grant Management, Jen Stromsten, BDCC

10 am- 4 pm (Individual TA Sign Ups)

Meeting You Where You Are: Individual sign up slots for grant writing technical assistance with experts.

One hour time slots to receive one-on-one technical for your project and grant from an expert.

If you indicate that you would like to participate in this portion of the workshop, you will receive a form to sign up for a specific time slot between 10 am and 4pm.

Please register for the upcoming grant writing workshop here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/making-fund-finding-fun-a-three-part-grant-writing-workshop-tickets-126466030301>

Discussion

Timothy Segar was nominated to be the Chair of the Planning Commission until our annual meeting in March. He was unanimously approved. Staley will continue as the Vice Chair.

The Town House was cited as a possible candidate for a Historical Preservation Grant. The deadline for applying to this Grant is December 14th. The suggestion was made to contact Michelle Holzapfel to see if she would be interested in pursuing this opportunity.

An accident on South Road at the intersection with Ames Hill has returned the issue of traffic safety to our attention once more. Discussions included identifying the town body that would take on the task of developing solutions to this problem. We will ask the Select Board to consider tackling this issue. Consultation with Windham Regional, the State Police and Dave Elliot should also be sought.

Continued discussion around the definition of Structures in the Zoning By-Laws, to include driveways, roads and logging roads. The discussion around optimal strategies for amending the By-Laws to create set-back requirements will continue at our December meeting.

Jennifer has notified the Commission that she will be able to resume our monthly meetings in December.

Further edits were made on the Town Plan in the Natural Resources and Housing sections. These edits constitute the completion of the narrative portion of the Town Plan Revision.

Adjourned at 7:00 PM Next Meeting will be December 8th

Respectfully submitted,
Don Sherefkin