

Shrewsbury Planning Commission

MINUTES

February 14, 2023

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Shrewsbury Town Office

Shrewsbury Planning Commission

7:00 to 7:15 p.m. Open to public input

Following public input:

1. Call to order
Meeting called to order at 7:05.
Attendees: Laura Black, and Melissa Reichert
2. Approval of agenda, review and/or revision
Agenda approved as presented.
3. Rounds and mail (SPC members' updates and review PC mail received)
Laura reported Rutland Regional Planning Commission executive meeting. They are working on a new Regional Plan. Laura mentioned the West Central Vermont economic development plan is under review.
4. Acceptance of meeting minutes of January 24, 2023
Minutes were accepted as written.
5. Community Value Mapping problem identification and concept development
Laura suggested adding the description of how to approach the value mapping and problem identification to the to do list. Melissa reviewed her thoughts on the problem identification: She looked at the Town Plan Objectives and Policies and through her review thought we may not have all the information we need or could have to meet the Objectives and Policies. We also should think about how detailed we want the information to be. Biofinder identifies a lot of the town to be priority areas for Forest Blocks and connectivity but it is done at a large scale.

Another concern Melissa raised was have we engaged the community in an effective way recently, it seemed to her that it has been quite a while since a large effort was made and we have many new residents in Town.

Laura went on a Maple Tour at Stewarts and noted some of the information about forests and diversity and carbon sequestration. Their focus is different from some other Forest management such as for timber.

Laura looked through the zoning at the North Shrewsbury Village residential for potential housing. The zoning may not allow for housing as much as it could and also may not protect forest lands and wildlife as well as it could due to the road frontage and acreage requirements. The Forest blocks need to be incorporated into the zoning. Laura also thought more information on historic features

could be added to the Town Plan through the value mapping such as the ski lift described in the Shrewsbury Times.

Laura suggested we try a mapping exercise with the SPC.

6. Forest Block Mapping

We looked at Biofinder briefly and noted that much of the town is priority for Forest blocks and connectivity. We will review this again at another meeting.

7. To do list review

- Scenic Resources
- Town Plan Maps discussion
- Town Plan Census changes
- Meadowlands review

8. Adjourn

Next meeting February 28.

Planning Commission, Chair

Date