

Shrewsbury Planning Commission

MINUTES

September 12, 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 7:06

Attendees: Laura Black, Ryan Fitzbeauchamp, and Melissa Reichert

Conner Self came as an interested member of the public.

2. Approval of agenda, review and/or revision

Agenda approved as presented.

3. Rounds and mail (SPC members' updates and review PC mail received)

Ryan attended a couple of Development Review Board (DRB) meetings as alternate. He was interested to experience how the Zoning and Subdivision regulations are carried out by the DRB.

4. Acceptance of meeting minutes of June 27, 2023

Minutes were accepted as written.

5. Class 4 road policy

The Class 4 Road Committee presented information to the Selectboard on their findings related to the Class 4 Roads. The Selectboard requested the Shrewsbury Planning Commission (SPC) develop a Class 4 Road Policy for their review. Laura will take on writing a draft policy for the SPC to review. There are models from other towns and the Vermont League of Cities and Towns that can be used as a basis for the draft.

6. Census data

Melissa reviewed the Census data we received from the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. She was wondering if the section that discusses the most recent years – 2021 to 2023 is confusing. It was thought that using the most recent years made sense but that the paragraph could use an introduction. Melissa Will do some editing to the draft.

7. Act 47 Amendments; see forwarded email from Adrienne dated 6/26 and

<https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/resources-rules/planning/HOME>

Most of the Act 47 changes relate to towns with sewer and water but there is an addition of a duplex to areas that allow single family homes. We need to review the Shrewsbury Unified Zoning and Subdivision Regulations (SUZS) in relation to the new law. There is a definition of a duplex in the Act. The question came up as to if each duplex is allowed have its own accessory dwelling. Melissa will do a word search in the SUZS for single family to find the places where we need to add duplex.

8. DHCD Updates - see forwarded email from Adrienne dated 7/1

We reviewed the updates that Adrienne sent out. Melissa thought the SPC should be getting these. Laura will bring it up to Rutland Regional Planning Commission. There is an online form now for planning commissions to fill out to submit zoning changes.

9. Community Values Mapping project

Ryan felt we had a good idea what this would look like from the meeting with Jens Hilke of Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife. Ryan suggested we work on a date and ideas on how to get the word out to people. Ryan will contact Jens to get the information he said would send us – the facilitators guide and his other materials. It was suggested that we aim toward April for having the meeting. At the next meeting we will chose a date and brainstorm ideas on how to get the word out – publicity.

10. Flood hazard mitigation planning

Laura brought this up to discuss the role of the SPC in light of recent events. She discussed the flood resilient community fund program (run by VT Emergency Management) and the potential for people to be involved in the program, and the Shrewsbury Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. How is the flooding situation going to effect Cuttingsville in the long term. We need to make updates to the Flood Hazard Area and River Corridor Regulations based on the information Ed Bove sent us. Melissa will find Ed Bove's email and find out what we have to do for updates.

11. VLCT Webinars of June14, 22

Laura is tracking down the recordings of the webinars from VLCT.

12. VT Parcelization website - <https://vtforesttrends.vnrc.org/home> (there was a webinar on 7/11. maybe VNRC posted it). Melissa reviewed the parcelization website. She found some interesting information. She noted that the State just passed legislation about wildlife and land conservation with a state target of 30% of the land be conserved. It was suggested we should see how much of Shrewsbury land is conserved.

13. Planning Grant options

Laura thought maybe we could use the Planning Grant for the Community Values Mapping. Laura will look into whether this makes sense.

14. To do list review – same list as before

- Scenic Resources
- Town Plan Maps discussion
- Meadowlands review

Next meeting September 26

15. Adjourn

Planning Commission, Chair

Date