

Shrewsbury Planning Commission

MINUTES

November 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 7:06

Attendees: Laura Black, Ryan Fitzbeauchamp, Connor Self, Melissa Reichert and Cynthia Thorton, 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)

Laura reported she had an email from the Conservation Commission about the webinar on improved zoning to prevent Forest Fragmentation. They want to get together with the Planning Commission to promote a better understanding of the Zoning Bylaws.

The Mount Holly Town Plan hearing is tomorrow evening and Laura is thinking about attending.

Laura likes several aspects of the plan and will share her notes on it.

Laura attended an event in Ludlow about the flood response with a number of non-profit and state agencies.

Melissa reported on the Resilient Right of Way webinar she attended this morning. The Urban and Community Forestry Program has developed a guide book on Resilient Right of Ways. She also mentioned that the forested Right of Ways work nicely with the work the Conservation Commission is doing on wildlife road crossings. Melissa requested copies of the guide for the Town of Shrewsbury. She noted that the Urban and Community Forestry Program has grants available and will look into them.

4. Acceptance of meeting minutes of October 24, 2023

Minutes were accepted as written.

In the discussion of the minutes, Melissa brought up an issue with the change of use described on the information sheet on the website. It does not really follow the zoning. We will follow-up on that. Connor will take a look at this.

5. 2024 Planning Commission budget

Laura went over the \$2700 budget she had created for the community value mapping as a request for the selectboard. We also need an additional \$500 for miscellaneous expenses totaling \$3200.

6. Class 4 road policy

We reviewed the proposed Class 4 road and trail policy. Laura suggested adding sections in Existing Use/Rights-of-Ways for both ATVs and Snowmobiles. Melissa suggested adding of Class 4 roads to Maintenance #3. The 4th bullet under #3 should be moved to 3rd bullet. Trails should be removed from #5. Laura will rewrite #6 about the snowmobiles or possibly move it to Existing Use under snowmobiles. Laura will try to get clarification on the snowmobile statute. We will keep the part on stone walls. Laura is going to revise #9. We will continue the review at the next meeting.

7. Census data

Tabled to next meeting.

8. Community Values Mapping project

Cynthia brought up that the Conservation Commission did a community forum about 10 years ago that included maps for people to put sticky notes on showing where important features were located. Laura will share (via dropbox/email) the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department publication on Community Values Mapping (CVM), and reports from past CVM events in a few Vermont towns."

9. To do list review – same list as before

- Scenic Resources
- Town Plan Maps discussion
- Meadowlands review

Next meeting November 28

10. Adjourn

Planning Commission, Chair

Date