

**Franklin Planning Commission
Homestead Dining Room
December 20, 2016**

Members Present: Maureen Sodaro (Secretary), Dave Bennion, Peter Kittell, Clark Hubbard, Judith McLaughlin, Dan Larivee, Cyrus Grennon

Members Absent: Rolland Rainville

Guests:

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes was made by Dan Larivee seconded by Judith McLaughlin. All members voted in favor of accepting the November 2016 minutes.

Mail Folder:

Old Business. The PC discussed advantages and disadvantages of belonging to the Regional Planning Commission, as well as the state mandates that affect updating our current town plan. (EG: regulations that affect new growth in the town and along the lake)

New Business: The PC explained to Cyrus Taylor Newton's work with the group as a member of the Regional Planning Commission. The PC enjoyed Christmas Pizza and welcomed Cyrus Grennon to the PC. Clark told the PC he was approached at the store about concerns regarding a subdivision near Dan Larivee's house. The PC has no knowledge about concerns other than what was originally approved.

The PC discussed Act 174 and the impact on the town as well. There was further discussion regarding the State of Vermont dictating what and where renewable sources can be placed in Franklin.

Judith brought up a concern about the timeline of the new plan. The PC cannot finalize the plan until the final regulations of the State are presented. Clark encouraged the PC to gather questions for Taylor at the next meeting. Judith and the rest of the PC would like the following information from Taylor.

- *Can he tell us the percentage of our accomplishments?
- *What does he feel we need to do in order to get an approved plan from the NWPC?
- *Can we write our own energy plan?
- *Where can the town have renewable energy placed? (Solar/wind).

The PC continued to discuss what more we can ask Taylor to do in order to have our town plan completed.

Clark said that it would be a good idea to ask Franklin townspeople where they would like different renewable energy sources placed. The PC feels that any industrial renewable source should have a screening to make it aesthetically pleasing.

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The map Taylor provided showed Franklin as having a great deal of land that could be used for solar or wind. The PC discussed where in town line certain sources would work. Dan wondered if the PC can get a copy of the Energy section of Swanton's town plan. The PC continued the discussion with the "90% renewable by 2050" state goal. The Select board and Water commission will be attending the next meeting. (January 17) Clark asked the PC members if they had any comments or concerns. The PC thanked Clark for the pizza and soda.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Clark, seconded Dan. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Franklin Planning Commission will be held on January 17, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Homestead Dining Room.

Respectfully Submitted,
December 22, 2016
Maureen Sodaro, Secretary

Note: These minutes are not final until approved by the Planning Commission at the next regular meeting.