

MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN PLANNING COMMISSION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2017
HOMESTEAD DINING ROOM

Members Present: Clark Hubbard, Rolland Rainville, Dan Larivee, Judith McLaughlin, Cyrus Grennon, David Bennion

Members Absent: Peter Kittell

Guests: John Ho, Corinna Stanley, Scott Korhonen

Meeting called to order at: 7:38 pm

Approval of Minutes: Dan made motion to approve minutes, seconded by Judith.

Old Business:

New Business: At the request of Taylor from NWPC, the PC is reviewing the solar project proposed by John Ho. John gave the PC a preliminary map to look at. Once the project moves to the next stage with the State of Vermont, there will be a more detailed map and information to present at future meeting(s).

Clark asked John about the size and number of panels in the project. John said approximately 740 panels, low profile. Judith asked about setbacks. Clark looked at the current Franklin setback measurements. John responded that the State of Vermont setbacks are less. The PC asked John questions about the map such as trees, previous panels, and road issues.

John asked the PC if the Town of Franklin had goals for renewable energy. The PC responded that there was a meeting a few months ago, and that the State determined that the Franklin area is well suited for solar facilities.

Clark wants to know what the State is recommending for setbacks. John will request that information from the State of Vermont. Judith made a motion to approve John Ho's preliminary plan provided he has information from the State of Vermont regarding setbacks. The motion was seconded by Clark. All approved the motion. John is hoping the project can begin next summer of 2018. The group discussed current and future projects, credits, infrastructure, and lower costs of power.

The PC adjourned that portion of the meeting at 8:30, and moved on to other business. The PC began to review Chapter 9 of the energy plan. The PC made corrections and comments to the document for Taylor. These will be presented to Taylor at the next meeting.

Clark wants to know if his request regarding copying and sending documents went to RPC. He also would like tape recorder at all meetings.

Mail: Erosion Flood Resilience Scorecard

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Public Comments: Corinna and Scott stated that they were present to support John's project. John wondered if the PC will meet with Taylor regarding his plan. Clark stated that once the PC approves, we will send the approval to NWRPC. Clark will ask Taylor if the NWRPC needs to approve the plan. Judith and the PC are happy with the enhanced energy plan. Judith asked about protecting certain areas, and the PC will ask Taylor about that in December.

Motion to adjourn: Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00, seconded by Judith. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Franklin Planning Commission will be December 19, 2017 at the Homestead Dining Room.

Respectfully submitted,
November 23, 2017
Maureen Sodaro, Secretary

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