

Jamaica Planning Commission

Minutes for the September 25, 2017 pre-submission proposed Jamaica Town Plan update hearing

Planning Commission members present: Veda Basset, Rebecca Ohm, and Chris Robbins

Members of the public present: Joel Bluming, Dan Cummins

1. Veda called the hearing to order at 5:00 PM
2. Veda read the hearing public announcement in the September 8, 2017 Brattleboro Reformer Public Notices into the hearing record as follows:

Notice of Hearing

The Jamaica Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed update to the Town Plan on Monday, September 25, 2017 at 5:00 PM in the Jamaica Town Offices. The plan pertains to all of the Town of Jamaica. The Table of Contents includes: Introduction, Community Profile, Land Use, Natural Resources, Economic Development, Potable Water Supply and Wastewater, Energy, Community Facilities and Services, Education, Housing, Transportation, Flood Resilience Plan, Town Plan Compatibility, Implementing the Town Plan, and Response to Vermont's Planning goals. A full copy of the proposed Town Plan, text, and maps can be found in the Jamaica Town Office with the Town Clerk and is available to the public for review. The Jamaica Planning Commission sent out the proposed update to the Jamaica Town Plan to solicit comment from planning commissions of abutting municipalities and from the regional planning commission with respect to the compatibility of their respective plans with its own plan on August 22, 2017 via US Mail.

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3. Veda reported that to date the commission has not received any comments from other towns or the Jamaica Select Board.
4. Veda reminded the commission that changes can still be made and requested any comments on the proposed Town Plan from commission members and the public. In response, Rebecca Ohm reported on a meeting in Bellows Falls on the Vermont State revenue bonds being issued in the amount of \$35M to fund building and refurbishing low and moderate priced housing. Grants from this fund will be made to non-profit organizations, municipalities, and private-public partnerships between private investors and non-profit organizations for this purpose. \$100M is expected from private investments. Applications for 2020 funding can be made this fall. Rebecca suggested that an action item be added to the proposed Town Plan to investigate this source of funding for use in Jamaica low and moderate priced housing projects. With the commission's concurrence, Rebecca agreed to submit an action item for inclusion in the proposed Town Plan to John Bennett.

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5. There being no other comments on the proposed Town Plan, the hearing was adjourned at 5:14 PM

Submitted by Chris Robbins