

JAMAICA PLANNING COMMISSION (JPC)

REGULAR MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

October 7, 2019

Present: Bryan Zieroff, Patrick McQuillan, Chris Robbins, and Rebecca Ohm.

Public Present: Joel Bluming, Charlie Peck, Jessica Glass, Lou Brusco, and Alyssa Sabetto from Windham Regional Commission (WRC).

1. Meeting call to order: Rebecca called the meeting to order at 8:03 pm.
2. Additions to the agenda: Alyssa Sabetto was present to provide input on the JPC plan to forgo the conditional use review, with the flood plan administrator issuing all permits, and the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) only dealing with variances and appeals. Alyssa indicated that the JPC plan would be a simplified approach, but wants to confirm with FEMA that we can proceed as planned.
3. Approve minutes: The meeting minutes from the September 16, 2019 regular meeting were approved unanimously.
4. Mail received: 1) Efficiency Vermont sent an offering to give Jamaica businesses free energy consultations to help us understand what upgrade opportunities are available. 2) Vermont League of Cities and Towns is holding a Fall Planning and Zoning Forum on October 23, 2019. 3) The WRC will hold a public hearing on Tuesday October 15th in the Town of Wardsboro to consider the request for approval of the Wardsboro Town Plan.
5. Discuss issues presented during LHMP (Local Hazard Mitigation Plan) special meetings held 5:30-7:30: Alyssa Sabetto directed an information meeting where town input was used to identify key issues for promulgation of the LHMP. The meeting was well attended by Jamaica representatives involved with hazard mitigation, and a baseline for moving forward with updating the LHMP was established. The November 4th special meeting will continue the process.
6. Determine appropriate schedule for resuming discussion of flood zone regulations: JPC reconfirmed the August 19th meeting position to move forward with foregoing the conditional use approval process. Charlie will move forward with preparing an initial draft of the proposed new regulations.
7. Other business, if any: The October 15th warned meeting for the water vote. The JPC voiced concern over confusion with the evolving water study approval process where the plan established by the Request for Proposal (RFP) was quickly changed on the fly, and the Selectboard decided to set a vote for the whole RFP. Between a seemingly immediate change by the Selectboard to change the process established by the RFP that took significant

effort to prepare, the failed attempts of the Selectboard to accept the JPC request to present the tax study, and the rush to vote, the JPC feels that uninformed decisions will be made to move forward with the study.

8. Public concerns: A member of the public that has been coordinating with VTRANS for repair of the Jamaica Bridge to the State Park indicated that a representative engineer from VTRANS finally responded to several requests saying the bridge was inspected and in good condition. After it was explained that the Army Corp. of Engineers (ACOE) had different conclusions relating to the status of the bridge, it was reported that VTRANS may possibly interact with ACOE to obtain a final inspection status.
9. Calendar items: The next JPC meeting is scheduled for Monday October 21, 2019.
10. Meeting adjourn: Rebecca adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.