

JAMAICA PLANNING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

September 5, 2018 (Rescheduled from September 3, 2018 – Labor Day)

Present: Chris Robbins, Bryan Zieroff, Lisa Mann, Rebecca Ohm

Public Present: Joel Bluming

1. Meeting call to order: Rebecca called the meeting to order at 07:00 pm.
2. Additions to the agenda: A land use discussion is being added as part of the discussion on the Municipal Planning Grant (Item 7).
3. Approve minutes: regular meeting minutes of August 20, 2018 approved unanimously.
4. Mail: An information packet was received from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns Town Fair 2018. The Town Fair includes sessions for improving all facets of municipal work including support groups, promulgation of laws and regulations, and community support.
5. Energy update: Chris received final comments from Marion Major on the Draft Energy Plan. The comments were addressed and the next steps include the preparation and insertion of the maps and figures. Upon completion of the final document, the formal adoption process is to be completed through the town.
6. Hazard/Flood Mitigation Plan update: Rebecca was able to confirm that Jamaica's Hazard Mitigation Plan needs to be updated by 2020; Windham Regional will be providing a spreadsheet indicating where we need to update the currently approved plan. We also need to update the Flood Resilience Plan as part of the approved Town Plan.
7. Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) for 2019: Due to the smaller scale effort needed to update the Plans described in Item #6, the Planning Commission agreed that the best use of the MPG is for land use issues and the development of policies that protect the best interests of Jamaica.
8. Update on sign ordinance work: The first draft of the sign ordinance plan has been prepared and the Selectboard will complete a full review prior to voting on enacting the new ordinance.
9. Water feasibility project update: Chrissy Haskins has reported that survey responses are coming in (additional responses still needed), data is being compiled, and a summary of results is being prepared. Button Up Vermont – Membership was completed. Looking to complete an initial review of fall workshops related to energy savings.

10. Membership outreach: Patrick McQuillen is planning to attend the September 17th meeting. Lisa Mann has not been able to speak to Kate Ullman, former teacher in Jamaica, who is another possible candidate.
11. Other Business: Rebecca has been nominated by the Selectboard to attend Leadership Forum, Vermont Counsel on Rural Development, and will attend on October 1, 2018. Steve Tavella from West River Valley Thrives has shown interest in presenting substance abuse information to the Planning Commission. .
12. Public concerns: Since the potential Route 30 bus route is gaining traction at Windham Regional Transportation Committee and SCVT, it was recommended that the Planning Commission discuss, review, and encourage the town to support the bus route. Planning Commission recommended that the Windham Regional Transportation Committee and SCVT be asked to determine what can be done to communicate to generate support.
13. Calendar items: The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2018.
14. Meeting adjourn: Rebecca adjourned the meeting at 08:05 pm.