

Royalton Planning Commission

April 04, 2017

Members in Attendance:

Beth Wilhite

Jim Rikert

Stuart Levasseur

Nell Gwin

Bushrod Powers

Roni Johnson

Tim Dreisbach

Mark Wood

David Brandau

Guests:

Pat Dreisbach

Mark Wells

John Dumville

Cynthia Dalrymple

Theresa Manning

David Barker

The meeting was called to order by Beth Wilhite, chair, at 7:00 pm.

Cynthia Dalrymple presented information on the Royalton Memorial Library's expansion plans, at present the fundraising is over half way, about \$350,000 of the estimated \$700,000 needed to construct the addition. The RML is looking at several grants, a Historic Preservation grant for \$65,000, which will help to preserve certain architectural features, a Cultural Facilities grant for \$14,000 and several donations ranging from \$5 to \$100,000. The RML asked if the Library and Fire Station could be included in any upcoming traffic studies related to improving ADA accessibility for the sidewalks.

Mark Wells introduced himself to the Royalton Planning Commission expressing interest in the seat that Tim Dreisbach is vacating. Mark has been a resident of Royalton for 6 years and has done work for the

town. Mark learned of David Barker's interest in the vacancy and withdrew his name from the running saying that he would be interested in any future openings.

The Royalton Planning Commission discussed the State Inventory of Historic Places, and received insight from John Dumville on the benefits and drawbacks of putting buildings on the historic register. John saw the following as benefits: Access to public money for restoration, homeowner tax credits. Drawbacks include restrictions on types and extent of improvements, regulations are un-enforceable without zoning. Placing a building on a map does nothing to protect it. Previous versions of the town plan had an appendix listing the historic buildings, research needed to find out where the appendix can be found so it can be added to the current version. RPC will continue discussion on historic buildings and places at the next meeting.

The RPC reviewed photos prepared by Green Lantern Solar with proposed solar sites at the Crawford property and the Bethel Royalton Landfill. A motion was made by Nell Gwin to "Recommend to the Selectboard that they look into the dump property for solar, and other town properties, but not the Crawford property." The motion was seconded by Tim Dreisbach. Discussion ensued about the appropriateness of siting solar on the capped landfill. The consensus of the board was to recommend the Selectboard look into the project and to seek qualified input on siting the project. The motion passed 7:1.

Pat Dreisbach spoke the RPC on the Dog Park proposal, Pat spoke against the plan as she is concerned about irresponsible dog owners, the need for good liability insurance, the cost of fencing, and the need for responsible management.

Beth Wilhite advised the board that she intends to apply for a grant for sidewalk inventory. The ADA issue and potential for a Riverwalk are driving factors in getting the grant. The Selectboard has been using a preliminary plan and further research is needed.

Correspondence-

The Town of Strafford will be holding a meeting on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, to discuss their revised town plan.

The Public Service Board has a proposal to site a Verizon Wireless antenna in the steeple of the Red Door Church. The antenna would not be visible from the outside of the building. Some modifications will be visible while they gain access to the steeple.

Tim Dreisbach resigned (verbally) from the Royalton Planning Commission due to his recent election to the Selectboard, and while he could occupy both seats he chose to leave the Planning Commission. Tim will be sending an official letter.

The next meeting will be May 2nd, 2017, due to conflicts no second meeting in April.

The RPC meeting was adjourned at 9:44 pm with a motion to adjourn by Roni Johnson, seconded by Tim Dreisbach .

Respectfully submitted by Stuart Levasseur, Recording Secretary.