

Royalton Planning Commission
2017-12-05

Members present:

Beth Wilhite -Chair
Jim Rikert
Bushrod Powers
Stuart Levasseur
Nell Gwin
David Brandau

Absent:
Roni Johnson
Mark Wood

Meeting called to order at 6:12 pm

Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from 11-07-2017 by David Brandau,
Bushrod Powers seconded the motion.

Budget

The Planning Commission budget as discussed at the last meeting was presented to the Selectboard for their approval, no decision was made as the Selectboard is still reviewing the budgets.

Candidates

Candidates for the open seat on the Planning Commission is being advertised in the Herald, no responses have come in yet.

Attracting Business

Several area businesses have expressed interest in locating storage space in Royalton, suitable secure storage buildings are not readily available but there may be build to suit options.

Fire Rescue

The RPC discussed inviting the SR Fire Chief, and Road Commissioner to an upcoming meeting to learn about capital budget concerns, one of the TRORC assigned tasks for the commission is to prepare a capital budget for the town. The capital budget should forecast all major foreseeable expenses for the next 10, 25 and 50 years.

Flood Plain Administrator

Royalton's Flood Plain Administrator (Walter Hastings) is to be invited to an upcoming meeting in January or February so the RPC can learn how to work with the FPA to better serve the town. The FPA salary comes out of the RPC budget and the RPC seeks to better understand the role.

School Issues

While the planning commission is not directly involved in school politics, the RPC is concerned how the recent events at the school affect the town's image.

Recreation Commission

The Royalton Rec Committee is holding a Christmas fair at the high school, Saturday Dec 9 from 10-3. Bake sale, Santa, photo ops.

Midwinter Thaw

RPC discussed co-sponsoring an event with the Rec Commission for mid-winter, maybe a winter carnival type of event with outdoor activities, smoked food offerings, fundraiser for school lunches.

Summer event

RPC also discusses bringing Katie Rundie back to So Ro with the street drawings on Park street. Possibly tying this into a food vendor event such as a food truck corral.

Agenda for 2018

Capital Budget
Town Plan Revision
Planning Fun Events

Crawford Lot Plans

Reminder that the RPC still needs to present a plan for the future of the Crawford lot to the Selectboard. Nature trails, Business space, Dog Park were some of the ideas presented in the past year.

Riverwalk Study

A bike/walking path connecting the School to Paines Beach was proposed in 2017 and a grant was applied for to study the feasibility of such a project. Around 2001 there was a similar project proposed but it did not get landowner approval. This study would re-visit the idea and see if the climate has changed.

Sidewalk ADA Accessibility

Getting the sidewalk on the block (Chelsea St) to allow ADA accessibility to the stores is still needing business approval.

Grants for next year

Are there grants coming up for the next year we should prepare for? Check with TRORC, Vt Council for Rural Development

Next Meeting Tues January 2nd, 2018

Motion to adjourn at 7:31 pm, by 2017 by Jim Rikert, Nell Gwin seconded. Passed.

Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Stuart Levasseur, clerk.