

RPC\_Minutes\_2018.10.02

**Members Present:**

Jim Rikert

Mark Wood

Geo Honigford

Stuart Levasseur

Sarah Danly

Nell Gwin

The RPC meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Stuart Levasseur, chair.

Budget for upcoming year

Commission discussed proposed budget for 2019-2020 year

- TRORC Dues is nonnegotiable
- Floodplain administrator also needs to stay the same
- In the past, have only used a small fraction of the clerk wages – can safely cut that item in half.
- Interested in increasing mileage and miscellaneous expenses.
- Raise printing and advertising up from the 2018-2019 back up to earlier levels because the update of the Town Plan may involve more mailings and newspaper advertisements than usual.
- Subcontractor column in 2018-2019 covers payment to TRORC for additional help on Town Plan but that will be paid out during that fiscal year; 2019-2020 can be reduced again

With all the changes, this equals level funding for 2019-2020 as 2018-2020. The next step is to submit to the Selectboard; Geo Honigford moved to submit it, Jim Rikert seconded, and there was no additional discussion before unanimous approval of the motion. Chair Stuart Levasseur will bring to the Selectboard.

Vermont Conservation Commission

Stuart Levasseur attended Vermont Conservation Commission meeting in Sharon, where they presented their updated design plan for managing forest blocks. Two changes to note are a strongly encouraging people not to build in buffer areas around forest blocks, and previously any road cutting through a forest block was considered to break it up, but now Class 4 roads are not considered to be breaking it up.

The Planning Commission discussed briefly how this affects Royalton. The southeastern section of Royalton is in a large forest block but the rest isn't, so that is an important area of town to keep

development out of. This will likely need to be included in the Town Plan. People who are interested can use BioFinder to find the specific forest blocks and wildlife habitat that they're concerned about.

### Vermont Arts Council Grant

Nell Gwin attended a meeting about the Vermont Arts Council Grant, and is interested in applying for the grant.

- There is no match required and a grant award of up to \$15,000
- There is a December 10 deadline for a Letter of Intent and selected communities will be invited to apply in January.
- There does not seem to be a timeline for when the project must be finished by as many of the projects the grant is meant to support, are projects that will inevitably take a lot of time.

The application needs to be a community effort not just an individual applying. Nell Gwin will talk to the Selectboard and the school about whether there is potential to connect this project with the Riverwalk, as well as other potentially interested community members.

### Next Meeting:

The Planning Commission's November meeting will be on the **Third** Tuesday (11/200 as the first is election day).

### Town Plan:

As next steps for the Town Plan, members of the Planning Commission should begin brainstorming how past plans could be improved, what should be added (for example more historical information), etc.

Jim Rikert moved to adjourn, Mark Wood seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Sarah Danly, clerk.