

RPC_Minutes_2019.08.13

Planning Commission Members Present:

Geo Honigford
Jim Rikert
Stuart Levasseur
Bushrod Powers
David Brandau
Roni Johnson
Sarah Danly

Other Attendees:

Kimberly Gilbert, TRORC

Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:12 pm by Stuart Levasseur, Chair.

The group continued revising several sections of the Town Plan.

Community Facilities and Services

- The only note from the RPC from the last plan review was to think more about sewer and water capacity in the village.
- Members of the PC noted that there are challenges due to the water district, fire district, and village boundary not aligning, and that there has been interest in town of aligning these.
 - It was also noted that the housing in the water district is mostly rentals, which means there are few voters.
- The PC changed wording about maintaining a website to maintaining an online presence, to be more inclusive of changing technology.
- The PC strengthened the recommendation around maintaining community facilities.
- Figures from the water department need to be updated, and some language around a timeline for recommended updates to the system may need to be updated as well. Bushrod Powers will contact the Water Department and get this information.
- ECFiber: the PC added language that households and businesses have broadband access and that the town should support resident access. Members noted that even the public schools now have required homework assignments online and some students cannot complete their work without using the public wifi on the town green, which is an equity concern.
- The PC will also check with Rose Hemond about updating information for water treatment and sewer system.
- References to composting were added to sentences describing the importance of meeting recycling needs under the new Universal Recycling Law. It was noted that there may not be enough capacity at existing facilities for accepting food scraps, and that incorrectly managing food scraps in back yard compost bins attracts bears and other wildlife.

- TRORC will update the background information on the Irene FEMA buyout sites.
- Language about desired expansion to the town library was removed and updated as this expansion is currently underway.
- A reference to the Town Band was corrected to include that the Town Band is actually 150 years old.

Education

- Geo Honigford will update the background paragraph.
- The RPC review of the last plan had requested additional information and recommendations for childcare. The PC added additional background information about barriers including the difficulty in becoming licensed, accessibility during the winter months, and the expense.
- The PC removed some examples of adult education as being too tangentially related.

Transportation

- Kimberly will do updates to the data in the background section.
- The PC added a note that Class 4 roads have an economic value as well (logging).
- Several other small adjustments were made to descriptors of various roads.
- Language in the recommendations was changed to more clearly encourage creation of a shared turning lane on 107.
- It was noted that much of the language about Access Management in 107 is similar to policies in the Land Use chapter. The group will compare the sections and make sure nothing conflicts or is unnecessarily redundant.

The meeting was adjourned at 9pm.