

BRISTOL PLANNING COMMISSION
Holley Hall
Tuesday, November 19, 2019 @ 7:00 P.M
MINUTES

Planning Commission: Katie Raycroft-Meyer, Bill Brown, Tyler Masters, Robert Rooker, Bill Sayre, Tom Wallace, Kevin Hanson, Lloyd Dike, Mark Gibson

Others: Kris Perlee (Zoning Administrator), Andrew L'Roe (ACRPC)

Meeting called to order at 7:09 PM.

Administrative matters: Katie attended a Select Board meeting. Katie updated the Board on the Energy Plan. She told the Board that we may have an Open House for public when the Town Plan is completed - date around February.

Kris has meeting this week to firm up subdivision regulations. Our zoning regs do not contain certain subdivision regulations.

At the present time any proposed commercial development over one acre automatically activates Act 250.

Katie – there is deadline to put plan together, around May 2020.

Very important to move Energy Plan forward.

NATURAL RESOURCE SECTION – GOALS, POLICIES AND ACTIONS

(Andrew – submitted rewrite to PC on Nov. 5 via email)

Goals Discussion – change in some wording. Seems to be agreement on changes.

Item 2 - - forest blocks. Bill S. comments on restricting private ownership rights. Bill S. added another goal (number “6”) which recognized private ownership rights. Rob, Kris, Kevin - - changes in Item 4. “Protect surface and groundwater quality....”

Policies Discussion – Item 6 - - changes in wording. “Discourage....” “If development occurs...”

Actions Discussion - Agreement.

Discussion of forest corridors. Kevin suggested that more should be added to forest corridor section. Andrew referred Kevin to the map that delineates the forest corridors. Some additional description may be added.

Other Business:

Tom asked about the process by which the plans are updated (Town Plan) and why it is important to update the plan. Katie described the process and said that the new indication is that plans will be updated every eight years as compared to the current four years.

ENERGY PLAN

Kevin - - having problems with guidelines. His views are summarized below:

1. Wording too restrictive.
2. Elimination of environmental statements.
3. Elimination of all references to species and pollinators.
4. Add discussion of cost for residents to “comply” with energy mandates.

Bill B. disagreed with Kevin’s views of the Energy Plan.

Katie stated that plan needs certain standards to meet State requirements.

Tom - -we do not have to have mandated language in the Plan.

Rob – we never intended to be “mandate” changes. We can change wording to make the document less directive.

Mark - - how do we make the changes in the most economical way?

Rob – compile all comments and then rewrite sections involved.

Katie – described about differences in Energy Plans for different towns. Each plan is specific for each town.

Tom – where are we at?

The Commission decided that Mark, Rob, Kevin and Andrew will comprise a group that will take into account Kevin’s suggestions. Andrew will email the results of the deliberations prior to the next regular meeting - Dec. 17th

Kris suggested that we add more information on biomass and hydro generation.

Katie - - general statement about plan - - “we have to be open minded to developing technologies.”

Energy section will be added to Town Plan – three pages - - review this on 12/17.

Extra meeting Dec. 3 - - review of several sections – Energy, Transportation, Recreation and maybe Education. Approve minutes for 10/15/2019.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM.