

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

Present at meeting: Katie Raycroft-Meyer, Chair, Bill Brown, Co-Chair, Tom Wallace, Lloyd Dike, Jeff Lunstead, Kevin Hanson, Robert Rooker, Bill Sayre

Kris Perlee, Zoning Administrator

Andrew L'Roe, ACRPC

The virtual meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Minutes for 8/18/2020 (edited edition) were approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Tonight's agenda was to review the Bristol Town Plan and, if agreed on by the Commission, to send the document forward for a public hearing. It was noted that changes may be made to the Plan prior to adoption. The Commission will set a date for a public hearing.

Andrew moderated the next portion of the meeting.

Flood Resilience

Page 104 – second, third and fourth items will be removed depending on input from Valerie (Town Administrator).

Land Use and Planning

Page 105 – Nine paragraphs were eliminated. Only two remain: Item #2 and paragraph starting “{“Promote incentives.....”}. Eliminated items were either covered in other sections or deemed unnecessary.

Jeff Lunstead opened up a discussion concerning properties owned by out-of-staters that were being used as rental properties. There are about a dozen such properties in or near the downtown district. Jeff's concern was that proliferation of these types of rentals could change Bristol's ambiance. More on this topic is probably forthcoming. It was suggested that topic could be added to the Housing Section, e.g. pages 97 or 98.

Recreation and Healthy Living

Page 103 – wordsmithing of item #2. No other changes.

The Environment

Page 80 – Policies under Goal 5, changes include “...and local volunteer groups....”. No substantial changes.

Page 48 – Policies, second item, add “economically practical” instead of “feasible”.

Households

Page 11 – Second paragraph – add “A variety of housing.....” instead of “The availability of a.....”.

Page 14 – second paragraph – Add “Housing demand exceeds supply...” instead of “Bristol's existing housing stock.....”

Andrew asked that the student numbers included in the Education section could be updated. Kevin said he would provide them.

The Commission voted unanimously to forward the document (dated September 1, 2020) to a public hearing. Also, the Commission voted unanimously to send a memo delineating the changes to the Bristol Town Plan to the Select Board, nearby towns, and Regional Planning Commission.

NOTE: When the Plan is formerly approved by the Planning Commission, it should be done via a roll call.

Andrew will make all the edits (see above).

Katie noted that we had to publicize the public meeting (scheduled for October 6, 2020). She suggested informational boards to be placed around town (Andrew displayed one), announcing the public meeting on our website and putting details of town meeting in the Front Porch Forum.

The next meeting: September 15 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.