

Minutes of Grand Isle Planning Commission –November 18, 2014

Board Members Present:

Andy Paradee, Chair
David Borthwick-Leslie
Dwight Bullis
Colleen Cobb
Mitch McGrath
Melissa A. Boutin, Scribe

Guests:

Linda Effel
Brian Costello
Mark Cobb
AnnaMarie DeMars

A. Meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Andy Paradee, Chair.

B. Amend Agenda for Matters not Listed (New): Two Selectboard members are present and they will be heard after Brian Costello.

C. Guest: Brian Costello of Local Motion a non-profit bike/passenger ferry is here this evening to speak about the Island Line Trail. Back in 2005, information was collected and put into a report about the support of property owners from South Hero to Alburgh for this trail. It showed 1/3 yes, 1/3 maybe and 1/3 no to expand the Island Line. This year, Local Motion carried about 12,000 people seven days a week. Developing the Line through the rail bed promotes trails for recreation, healthy living and a safe alternative bike experience off Route 2. Local Motion would like to ask the local Planning Commissions and Recreation Committees for help approaching landowners for permission and/or right-of-way easements. It seems more reasonable to reach out locally since board members are from the Islands and Local Motion could help with obtaining grants, donations, etc. The Town Plan currently has a section on recreation which makes it helpful when grant opportunities are available. There was some discussion to participate in a Grand Isle County Trail Committee that would be made up of members from all the towns in the county. The Planning Commission will schedule a future meeting with the Recreation Committee and Brian Costello will also keep the PC Board updated. He is thanked for the information and his time.

D. Guest: Mark Cobb and AnnaMarie Demars, Selectboard Members - At tonight's meeting for an update on the Capital Budget Plan. Mark Cobb expected Bethany Remmers of Northwest Regional Planning to be a present. The agenda listed her but not as a guest. She is the point person for helping the Town of Grand Isle develop a Capital Budget Plan. AnnaMarie DeMars state she supports the idea of a Capital Budget Plan. She acknowledges the one done some time ago and suggests the Town may not be in the situation it is today if the Capital Budget Plan had been adopted. All the Town buildings are in need of repairs and maintenance. Developing a new Capital Budget Plan would take too long as well as no one on the Planning Commission has any experience with this item. NRPC had funding to help one more municipality in this area. David Borthwick-Leslie and Adam White are the

appointed members for the Town participating on the NRPC Board. They are to get information back to the Planning Commission. To date, there has been no answer as to whether the Town got the grant. David Borthwick-Leslie has left Bethany a voice message and is expecting to hear from her in the next day or so. Mark Cobb will send an email to Adam White for him to follow up too. Linda Effel, Zoning Administrative Officer informs all that Vermont Statute T24, Section 4443A states that in order to have a Capital Budget Plan, a Facilities and Utilities Plan needs to be in place first. She would expect anyone helping from NRPC would have that knowledge and that needs consideration.

E. Town Plan/Bylaws Update: Correspondence has been received back from Taylor Newtown of Northwest Regional Planning Commission. Linda Effel is asked to provide her comments/concerns for the next meeting and the PC will begin reviewing the feedback from both in increments. As a side note, Taylor Newton was previously the Zoning Administrator for the Town of Milton up until about six months ago. Mitch McGrath would like to know how many of the hours have been used thus far of the allotted annual forty hours. The Planning Commission will need continued guidance from NRPC for this update. This would include inviting Taylor to a future meeting once everything is discussed. Linda is thanked for her efforts on the Proposed Bylaws.

F. Exit 17 Update: David Borthwick-Leslie gives a bit of information on Milton/Chittenden County adding another exit further north. He believes there is some flexibility coming. The Federal government regulates the Interstates and no one knows if adding new exits are population based. It seems to be much different in the southern states like the Carolinas and Florida where they are always building new multi-lane highways and exits.

G. Any Other Meeting Attendance Update: Dwight Bullis and David Borthwick-Leslie were in attendance of the Selectboard meeting held on Monday evening. The Town is making reasonable progress on the new fire station building. A representative from Dore & Whittier displayed two floorplan options which the board unanimously picked floorplan option #1. If all goes well bids will be out at the end of February. The Grand Isle Consolidated Water District is installing filters to remove the disinfection-by-products and the project is moving along too.

H. Review and Approve Minutes of October 7 & 21, 2014: The PC has preliminarily approved the minutes of 10/07/14 but wanted the Selectboard to also approve since it was a joint meeting with them. This has not been done yet and is scheduled for the December 1st meeting. Keep on the agenda for final approval. A motion is made to accept the minutes of 10/21/14 as written. The motion is seconded by David Borthwick-Leslie. Colleen Cobb and Dwight Bullis were absent. Remaining members vote. All are in favor. Motion carried.

I. Agenda for next meeting on December 2, 2014:

Amend Agenda for Matters not listed

Guests:

Review Recommendations from Taylor Newton of NRPC to the Proposed Town Bylaws & Subdivision Regulations

Review Recommendations from Linda Effel, ZAO of Grand Isle to the Proposed Town Bylaws & Subdivision Regulations

Capital Budget Plan Update - Bethany Remmers

Exit 17 Update

Review & Approve Minutes: 10/07/14 & 11/18/14
Update from any other meeting attendance
Adjournment

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled to be held 7PM on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at the Grand Isle Town Office Community Room.

J. A motion to adjourn is made by Mitch McGrath. The motion is seconded by David Borthwick-Leslie. Members vote. All are in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

** A copy of the Town of Milton Bylaws are with Mitch McGrath for his review**
The Town of North Hero is voting on their proposed bylaws today, Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Respectfully Submitted: Melissa A. Boutin, Planning Commission, Scribe

DRAFT