

WATERBURY PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVED MINUTES

**Monday, January 13, 2025
6:00 P.M.**

Planning Commission: Martha Staskus, Kati Gallagher, Dana Allen, Billy Vigdor, Robbie Adler
Staff: Neal Leitner
Public in attendance: No public in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the municipal offices at 28 N. Main Street.

Agenda Review and Modifications

The agenda for the night was modified to include the town plan update chapters and work on visioning materials.

Dana Allen made a motion to approve the agenda modifications, it was seconded by Kati Gallagher.

Motion passed 5-0.

Announcements and public comments

No announcements were made, the public was not present.

Approval of December 17, 2024 Minutes

Dana Allen motioned to approve as amended the minutes of December 17th.

The motion was seconded by Kati Gallagher. Motion approved 5-0.

Update on Town Plan Chapters:

Housing – Kati Gallagher

Kati discussed needing to work with CVRPC to develop a housing target based in housing need to include in the Housing Chapter. The 2018 Town Plan had a housing target that was not met. How much of our existing housing stock is in the flood zones. Flood Ready Vermont should have that data. The PC discussed how some chapters are interconnected with others. For example, Housing and Flood Resilience are two independent chapters that are interconnected. Mapping of residential permits in Waterbury was discussed for the mapping section.

Energy – Billy Vigdor presented his findings for the Energy Chapter. He discussed the sources of the data and his key takeaway \ to set a directional goal

toward sustainable energy sources. He is putting together information that can explain the process of how the information was produced. He has data on EVs and PHEVs registered in Waterbury. ACS Data has primary heat source information on households in Waterbury. Renewable energy siting is another component of the Energy Chapter that has not been explored yet. A question of whether benchmarking Waterbury with County data is useful for this chapter. Acknowledging previous targets was mentioned, as a way to look back at what was accomplished versus which targets haven't been met.

Natural Resources – Martha Staskus presented on Natural Resources. She has spent much of her time on mapping data. She mentioned work with the Conservation Commission the maps that will be useful for the Natural Resources Chapter. Funding may be available for Natural Resource mapping.

Recreation – Robbie Adler presented data on recreation infrastructure and recreational trails that connect Waterbury. A mention was made about the Waterbury Village to Little River State Park connection study. Worcester Range Management Unit Long-Range Management Plan addresses recreation trails. This can potentially link into the Natural Resources Chapter. It can also have a link to the economic impacts from outdoor recreation. VOREC and CVEDC can also provide data r. Vermont Adaptive was discussed as accessibility to recreational opportunities. Robbie noted that visitor data was also uploaded into his folder for Waterbury recreational areas.

Work on Visioning materials

The PC reviewed a Community Visioning document that was prepared to frame the community outreach/visioning sessions. A speaker series was mentioned to engage the community for the visioning process. The speakers can address the top concerns revealed from the Town Plan Update survey results. A question was raised about how to draw information out of speaker series meetings.

The proposed process of visioning was outlined. Visioning outreach meetings and presenting the results from the Community Survey are part of it. Various methods of community projects and community visioning forums to engage with the community were discussed. The information gathered would ultimately be used by the PC to formulate goals and objectives in the Town Plan.

VELCO K24-5 project in Waterbury, Vermont - PUC Case 24-3723-PET - Petition pending before VT Public Utility Commission.

The PC is in support of the VELCO replacement project, comments are not required.

8:00 p.m. Adjournment