

Minutes of the  
Regular Meeting of the  
West Fairlee Planning Commission (PC)  
July 10th, 2017  
7:00 P.M.

Members Present: John Benjamin, Chair, Al Pfeiffer, Vice Chair, Peggy Burden, Tom Baccei, Nancy Malmquist and Brian Stone

Others Present: Chris Damiani, Planner, Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC)

Welcome: John called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Five Minute Share: Lisa Ordway, Assistant Fire Chief, presented information regarding the operations of the fire department and future needs. She spoke about the ongoing need for training, and the legal and insurance company regulations and restrictions the fire department must adhere to. She gave a brief history of the inclusion of the EMT service and the high fixed expenses such as the mandatory destruction and reordering of all drugs every three months. She also talked about the future for the small town all volunteer fire departments and their challenges to attract members. One possibility might be to form regional, paid, full time departments to assist surrounding local volunteer fire departments. Another idea might be to consolidate local fire departments to increase efficiency and try to hold the escalating costs to a minimum.

Minutes: Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED to approve the Minutes for the June 12th Regular Meeting.

Community Survey: Al reported that there were 97 surveys returned and he would attempt to summarize findings by July 24th.

2017 Community Meeting: The date for the meeting is Sunday, September 24th. Tom volunteered to assist John with planning for the meeting.

2018 Town Plan Project Assignment: Review Markup of Housing, Economic Development and Community Facilities Chapters: The chapters were reviewed and edited line by line. Tom presented some alternative language regarding housing and town taxes that was discussed and will be reviewed for further consideration. The need for better internet and cell service received emphasis. Chris noted that statistics will need to be updated after the results of the 2017 Community Survey have been compiled.

Adjournment: There being no further business, it was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Burden, Acting Clerk