RUTLAND CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

City Hall – 52 Washington St. – Rutland, VT 05701
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 969 – Rutland, VT 05702
Phone: 802-773-1800

7/27/2016

Minutes
Amended July 27, 2016

Present: Dave Coppock (DC), Susan Schreibman (SS), Patrick Griffin (PG) and Larry Walter (LW).

DC, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

I. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS – DC asked to include two items under New Business: election of officers and request from Tara Kelly.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 13, 2016.

SS moved to approve the minutes of July 13, 2016 with the following changes: remove [pedestrian] on page 1 paragraph 1 under Old Business; and change [amenities] on page 2 paragraph 4 to bike and pedestrian infrastructure. LW seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. NEW BUSINESS – Election of Officers.

DC said now that SS is not working at the Rutland Regional Planning Commission there is no longer a conflict of interest with her being Chair of the Rutland City Planning Commission and DC so moved. PG seconded. Following discussion of the possibility of co-chairs and whether other members of the Commission were interested in serving as Chair, the motion carried unanimously.

FY2017 Municipal Planning Grant

DC said Tara Kelly had asked for clarity on what the Zoning Bylaw update would include. The following list was developed:

- Mayor prefers Use Based Zoning as opposed to Forms Based Zoning
- Compliance with State Statute (April 23, 2013 Ed Bove Letter)
- Firm up language for DRB (change "may" to "shall" etc.)
- Incorporate notes of Alan Shelvey and Charles Romeo re: inconsistencies
- Research/improve Architectural Review process
- Add waivers – variances are illegal unless 5 conditions are met
- Improve land use to include aesthetics
- Decrease number of zoning districts
- Include draft language from Alvin re: design control districts.

DC will respond to Tara's request with this list.

V. OLD BUSINESS – Complete Streets.

SS suggested providing the Complete Streets Subcommittee a marked up copy of the draft and volunteered to combine the Commissioners notes into one version. Barbara will copy that version and provide it to DPW.

PG asked about the status of the letter Tara had volunteered to draft regarding the Commissions initial general concerns and overall shortcomings with the Complete Streets plan. This letter would proceed the Commission's more specific comments.

The Commission proceeded with discussion on the draft at Roadway Design.

Page 16-17 - Catch basin grates should have a maximum elevation differential of ¼ inch with adjacent asphalt; vertical curb inlets are preferred; and maximum curb cut widths should be established.

Page 18 – Add delineated shoulders (fog lines) to Paved Shoulders. Specify low and lower traffic volumes and speeds. Limit curb cut width and allow only 1 per property per street. Add a minimum distance between curb cuts. Sweeping of shoulders should be conducted annually.

Page 19 – Roads should be evaluated for potential road diets when road capacity exists and rear-end and side swipe collisions occur.

DC will follow up on first letter drafted by Tara and have it include that additional specific comments would be provided by the end of August.

*SS left the meeting.

Page 20 – Add pedestrian signals and rapid flashing beacons to list of design features to consider. Portable pedestrian signs should be used for all downtown and mid-block crossings.

Page 21 – Add roadway and/or to first sentence regarding bulb-outs. Add "these should be used on all roads exceeding ___ft. in width, regarding pedestrian refuge center island.

Page 22 – Include roundabout and curbing to list of design features for traffic calming.

Page 23 – Add curbs to list of vertical elements to consider when discouraging speed and prioritize reduced vehicle lanes wherever possible.

Page 24 – Collect ridership data from The Bus to be determine where bus shelters are sited.

Page 25 – Include solar lighting as a cost effective approach at bus stops. Revise bulb-out language to say "Bulb outs should be installed at sites along city sidewalks with high patron volumes…"

Page 26 – Why is parking a part of the Complete Street plan? Add and safety for non-vehicular traffic to the first sentence on the page. The sentence beginning with "Reverse Angel Parking" is incomplete. Add bicycle and vehicular before traffic in the next to last sentence on the page. Add all angle parking should be reviewed and considered for revising to reverse angle parking.

Page 27 – Remove [accessibility by the user] replace with space. Why are "loading zones" included?

Page 28 – Include solar lights in the list of design features to consider. Define "architectural environments."

PG suggested looking at the maps. Discussion continued regarding adding streets to the Bicycle and Pedestrian priority maps. There was also discussion regarding adding crosswalks on North Main Street at North Street and Temple Street and returning the crosswalk at East Street on Route 4 East. Road Classifications for Lincoln Avenue, Jackson Avenue, Temple Street and Bellevue Avenue should be considered Transitional.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE – Added to next week's agenda.

VII. ADJOURN.

PG moved to adjourn. LW seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:24 pm. The next meeting will be held August 10.

For the Commission
Barbara Spaulding, Recording Secretary