

**Rutland City Planning Commission
Minutes
May 13, 2020**

Chair Schreibman noted that the meeting was being held by teleconference because of the new COVID-19 protocols.

Present: Susan Schreibman (SS), Alvin Figiel (AF) and *Dave Coppock (DC).

Also Present: Alderman Michael Talbott and Barbara Spaulding, recording secretary.

Absent: Patrick Griffin (PG) and Larry Walter (LW).

SS, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm.

I. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS – Due to a lack of a quorum the draft zoning bylaws was discussed first.

II. OLD BUSINESS – Draft Zoning Bylaws.

SS took the opportunity to apprise Alderman Talbott of the history leading up to the current draft Zoning Bylaws. She explained the need for an update included the fact that the 2004 bylaws were out of compliance with state statute, they are vague and new tools like “waivers” need to be added. She also provided a timeline of the process which began in 2017 with a Municipal Planning Grant to address updating the zoning. This resulted in the draft zoning dated 11/28/2018. A second Municipal Planning Grant was awarded in 2020 to specifically deal with two issues: development review standards and mixed residential districts.

AF added that design standards for districts other than Downtown and Historic need to be addressed, as well as, the role of the Architectural Review Committee. He also explained that the Planning Commission has been jumping around the last couple years while also dealing with the sign ordinance update and City Master Plan.

*DC joined the call.

SS said the zoning document has the teeth to be enforced. The Commission has been reviewing the draft and is currently looking at the Development Review section. The prior sections Authority and Purpose, Zoning Districts, Regulations etc. are mostly dictated by state statute. She added that the details of design standards are important to help the Development Review Board in their decisions.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 22, 2020.

AF moved to approve the minutes of April 22, 2020. DC seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS – Response to Public Utility Commission’s letter re: 171 River St.

SS submitted a draft letter to the Vermont Public Utility requesting landscaping for the proposed project at 171 River Street for screening the Rutland Creek Path.

AF moved to have the Chair sign and mail the proposed letter. DC seconded. Motion was approved.

V. CORRESPONDENCE – None.

VI. ADJOURN.

AF moved to adjourn. DC seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 6:03 pm. The next meeting will be held June 10, 2020.

For the Commission:

Barbara Spaulding, Recording Secretary