



RUTLAND CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
RUTLAND, VERMONT 05701

4/17/13

Minutes
April 17, 2013

Present: Jack Facey (JF), Jerry Hansen (JH) and Mike Roberts (MR).

Also Attending: Alderman Siliski, Brennan Duffy, RRA Executive Director, Ed Bove and Susan Schriebman, RRPC.

The meeting was called to order by JF, Chair, at 6:22 pm.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 20 and 27, 2013.

JH moved to approve the minutes of March 20 and 27, 2013. MR seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

II. NEW BUSINESS – RRPC Enhanced Consultation

Ed Bove and Susan Schriebman said that the State has tasked the RRPC to review town plans for conformance with a required checklist. The Challenge for Change initiative has raised the bar for town plans. Ed added that the RRPC will eventually sign off on the revised plan which enables the City to apply for grants. Ed said the City's plan is a good one and with some minor updates would pass the RRPC review. He made the following recommendations for the Commission to consider in its update:

Sec. 2: Executive Summary and Statement of Objectives

- Update railyard relocation plans.
- Make sure the locations for industrial uses are where the City wants.
- Include transportation updates and include ped/bike and other projects.
- Include housing analysis information.
- Include status of Capital Improvement Plan.
- Include MS4 permit status.
- Add Natural Resources paragraph that includes storm water resources.
- Elaborate on Childcare Element 6.4 as it is one of the 13 state goals to ensure affordable child care and include a goal for the City based on number of existing facilities and what is needed.
- Recognize Rutland as the leader in agricultural impact on economic development; include venues for locally grown food and how the farmers' market in downtown drives economic development.

Section 3: Statistical Information

- Update the figures, use the housing needs assessment.

- Add discussion on each table, use analysis from housing needs assessment.
- RRPC will check on locations of income level data.

Section 4: Land Use Plan

- Update railyard information.
- Add Blighted Property initiative.
- Discuss “Complete Streets” principals.
- Add discussion regarding keeping municipal and public buildings in downtown.
- Confirm acreage in zoning districts and discuss difference between 5,230 acres on page 1 with 4,913.3 acres on page 27.
- Add signage information including sign ordinance, wayfinding project for aesthetics and economic development.
- “Beef up” Natural Resources information to include air quality, storm water, Scenic areas East Creek, Otter Creek, Pine Hill Park. Change Natural Resource “Constraints” to Opportunities.

Section 5: Transportation Plan

- Update railyard information.
- Add discussion regarding traffic patterns and land use that leads back to the Land Use section.
- Add discussion of Accessory Uses.
- Add discussion of minimizing curb cuts on arterioles, routes and collectors.
- Incorporate “Complete Streets” which was made Vermont law in 2011 in Chapter 117 that says: “all roads must address all users.” Any new roads or reconstructed roads should include sidewalk repair or at a minimum allow for all users including ped/bike.
- Include signage information.

Section 6: Community Facilities Plan

- Include emergency management language.
- Include MS4.
- Include Capital Improvement Plan status.
- Under Recreation include a list of recreation facilities.
- Include recycling program update; contact Jim Gorman.

Section 7: Education

- Minimal updates needed.
- JH discussed the College of St. Joseph's request for an Education District in Zoning.

Section 8: Housing

- Include Blighted Properties Initiative.
- Add discussion of Accessory apartments (State 4302). Plan for Zoning Bylaws change.

Section 9: Energy

- Good.

Section 10: Implementation Plan

- Add stand alone section on Natural Resources and Economic Development.

Required maps: Future Land Use, Community Facilities, Transportation and Natural Resources.

- Add prime agricultural soil to Map 3.
- Include current zoning map.

Following the consultation, Brennan asked if the RRPC would work “a la carte” as needed throughout the update of the plan. Ed agreed but would like a contract for services up to \$3,000. He added that he had six issues pertinent to the Zoning Bylaws that would need to be addressed as a separate issue.

III. OLD BUSINESS - Rutland City Master Plan Update.

Brennan discussed submitting the sections to the Commission so they could track the changes. The Commission reviewed the changes to Section 1: Introduction and made the following comments.

MR discussed the intent of the plan is to address future goals. JH suggested changing paragraph 3 to strike “Rather than defining entirely new goals and objectives devised for the purpose,” and changing the sentence to: “The Commission views the plan as an opportunity to compile information about many initiatives already in progress, as well as to set future goals.”

The Commission discussed whether in fact Rutland is the third largest city. Brennan said his research confirmed that based on population it is the third largest city.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE.

MR moved to receive and file the following correspondence. JH seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4/11/13, Town of Killington Planning Commission, re: #1R0980 Killington Master Plan SP Land Company, LLC, non-support of permit conditions proposed by regional planning commissions; and

4/15/13, VT League of Cities & Towns, Spring Planning and Zoning Forum, May 22, Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee.

V. ADJOURN.

JH moved to adjourn. MR seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:45 pm.

For the Commission, Barbara Allen, Recording Secretary