

Approved March 21, 2012

CORNWALL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 15, 2012
Cornwall Town Hall

PRESENT: Geoff Demong, Jim Duclos, Tracy Himmel Isham, Jim Bolton, Annie Wilson, Jean Terwilliger
GUEST: Kevin Lehman, Regional Planner, ACRPC

Meeting called to order at 7:08pm. Quorum established.

MINUTES

Minutes December 21, 2011 – Jim B. MOVED/ Jean SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried on voice vote.

TOWN PLAN UPDATE – continued

Review of Energy Section

The board and Kevin Lehman discussed overall progress in Town Plan update. Kevin made the following suggestions about important issues, goals and strategies to include in the Energy section of the updated Town Plan.

Highest priority:

1. Create a Cornwall Energy Committee (to get PACE program going, do outreach)
2. Create 1-3 energy goals
3. Link goals to strategies and concrete actions
4. Add information on energy financing programs, such as PACE, CVOEO, and NWWVT
5. Link energy with land use
6. Update information so it is current (two excellent resources: new Vermont Comprehensive Energy Plan and the Renewable Energy Atlas)

Lower priority:

1. Add information about fuel assistance program
2. Add information about rebates and incentives and the services of Efficiency Vermont

Goal Suggestions:

1. Improve energy efficiency of existing housing stock
2. Encourage energy efficiency in new construction
3. Encourage renewables for homes and businesses
4. Transportation and land use links

Possible strategies:

1. Partner with groups such as Efficiency Vermont, VPIRG, ACRPC, and Acorn Energy CoOp (for education, energy programs, technical assistance, buying programs)
2. Energy Code
3. PACE

Other ideas:

1. ZA should have a handout for folks doing remodels about energy
2. Promote “energy smart” site orientation
3. State has energy code, no other state or local building codes
4. CPC will ask Energy Coordinator Gary Barnett to review drafted energy section.

Next steps for town plan update process

CPC members agreed to work on specific sections.

- Utilities and Energy - Jean
- Transportation - Holly
- Education - Tracy
- Nature and the Environment – Jim will ask Conservation Commission members Marc Lapin and Mary Dodge
- Recreation (including the Bike Path) – Annie
- History – Jim will work with Sue Johnson and Cy Tall
- Community Facilities and Services - Geoff – will consult with Selectboard member Ben Wood about Town buildings
- Current Land Use – Jim Duclos. Jim Bolton will ask Sara Pelkey to also work on Land Use section and will provide Sara with Smart Growth Vermont materials with recommendations from the 2008 study on the Village Center as a possible addendum to the Current Land Use section. It was noted that the organization known as Smartgrowth Vermont is now folded into the Vermont Natural Resources Council (VNRC).
- Cornwall tomorrow - the goals section – all will work on this
- Cornwall Yesterday - Jim Bolton
- Economy – list of small businesses in Cornwall

Next Meeting: March 21. Claire from ACRPC will be there. Sara Pelkey will be invited to help with goals.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Tierra, CPC Secretary