

Approved January 19, 2022

CORNWALL PLANNING COMMISSION (CPC)
Regular Meeting
Cornwall Town Hall and via Teleconference
December 15, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Conor Stinson, Don Burns, Marge Drexler, Drew Kervick, Chris Hodges

Recording of the meeting announced.
The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.
Quorum - established

AGENDA - Marge D. MOVED / Chris H. SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda as posted. ***Motion passed - unanimously, by voice vote/show of hands.***

MINUTES

- **November 17, 2021** - Chris H. MOVED / Marge D. SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as posted. ***Motion passed - unanimously, by voice vote/show of hands.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Conor S. welcomed Secretary Sharon Tierra back. Sharon T. was unable to attend the last two meetings but was able to successfully compose the October and November draft minutes by listening to the Zoom recordings.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW - received Maple Broadband budget and Annual Report. Conor S. will forward to the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

OLD BUSINESS

- **Statistical Update** - Drew K.

Statistical report from Lister Todd Kincaid has not yet been received. Drew K. said that if the CPC is able to obtain current housing data from the Listers, it will improve the update of the Housing Section of the Town Plan.

- **Forest Integrity / Fragmentation** - Don Burns

Don B. said that the latest draft of the Forest Integrity / Fragmentation section is in the shared Google Docs folder. Drew K. had some minor edits to suggest (clean up type comments) and will send to Don B. During the meeting, Conor S. set the document editing function for all members of the CPC and showed how to add comments and footnotes to documents in the shared folder. Also during the meeting Conor S. showed aerial photos of Cornwall from the 1960s that illustrate changes in forest blocks, both fragmentation and also reforestation. The value of a special features overlay was discussed as a tool to inform property owners about their land. Property owners could receive packets with information about forest blocks before they apply to the Development Review Board. Changes could be made in the regulations adding language about encouraging people to be better informed. Property owners have the right to develop their land but might make different choices about how to develop or manage it, with this knowledge.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Next Elements of Update Discussion** - Conor S. suggested the next elements to focus on in “Cornwall Today” are the Economy and Education sections. He added that a working meeting could be held to discuss these sections, with an eye to offering guidance to update leaders (TBA). Homework - see Action Items below.
- **Masks and Meetings** - Don B. reported that at the most recent Select Board meeting, it was decided not to adopt a mask mandate for all indoor public spaces (primarily the Town Hall) in Cornwall. Rather the decision about masks be left up to the chairperson of each board or committee. Procedures regarding masks can be added to meeting agendas, the option to attend the meeting via Zoom makes it accessible to those who choose not to wear a mask, and the chair of any board or committee has the power to adjourn the meeting, if an issue of health or safety arises.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Conor S. will find a few pairs of historical and contemporary aerial images to show changes in forest blocks in the past 60 years.
 2. Don B. will make changes to the draft Forest Integrity document over the week of December 18 and will have a clean copy ready for distribution on Monday December 20.
 3. Conor S. will send the working drafts of Forest Integrity / Fragmentation, Housing, and Population sections to the Select Board, Conservation Commission, Development Review Board, and the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, for review of CPC progress on grant-funded updates to the Town Plan. Responses from these bodies will be requested before the next CPC meeting on January 19.
- All members read the Economy and Education sections in the current Town Plan and review the Audit documents to consider how changes could be made to these two sections.
 - Next meeting: January 19

ADJOURNMENT

Marge D. MOVED /Chris H. SECONDED a motion to adjourn the meeting. ***Motion passed - unanimously, by voice vote/show of hands.***

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.
Submitted by Sharon Tierra, Secretary of the CPC