

Approved November 15, 2023

**CORNWALL PLANNING COMMISSION (CPC)**

Public Hearing and Regular Meeting  
Cornwall Town Hall and via Teleconference  
October 18, 2023

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Conor Stinson, Don Burns, Mickey Heinecken, Katherine Branch, Lauren Ringey

**ALSO PRESENT:** Stan Grzyb, Meg Harris, Gail Isenberg, Gary Barnett

Recording announced.

**CALL TO ORDER** - the meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm by the Meeting Chair, Don Burns.

**QUORUM** - established

**AGENDA** - Mickey H. MOVED / Conor S. SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda as amended, with meeting with Select Board removed (postponed until next meeting). **Motion passed** - 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

**MINUTES**

**September 20, 2023** - Mickey H. MOVED / Lauren R. SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as amended, with one name spelling corrected. **Motion passed** - 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Don B. announced that Cornwall's Village Center Designation was approved, thanks to the valiant efforts of the CORA committee and the assistance of Katie Raycroft - Meyer of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC). Having the Village Center Designation makes Cornwall now eligible for certain State grants and programs.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Cornwall Outdoor Recreation Area (CORA) Presentation**

Gail Isenberg, along with Stan Grzyb and Meg Harris, presented information about the proposed Cornwall Outdoor Recreation Area, to be developed on a 2 acre parcel owned by the Town and adjacent to the school. Plans that have been underway for the past year call for 2-3 phases of fundraising and construction, starting with the first phase to build a tennis court, pickle ball courts and ADA compliant walking path, and later to add a picnic shelter, horseshoe pit, and bocce court. The features of the recreation area were selected based on a recent survey of town residents. The CORA committee described their fundraising successes and grants received to date, the pro bono technical assistance they received from a federal program, and current fundraising efforts. The CORA committee plans to have a table at the Cornwall Fire Department Open House this Sunday. They have applied for ARPA funds from the Town, in order to be eligible for the \$40,000 Better Places grant from the State.

**CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW** - none

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - none

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **• Updates about Energy Committee - Don Burns and Gary Barnett**

Gary Barnett described what he has done in his role as Energy Coordinator. He writes an article in the Town Report, offers energy consultations to residents and connects them with resources. Gary believes that transitioning from a single coordinator to an energy committee would benefit Cornwall. Gary has spoken with the energy committee in Weybridge and they like the idea of a joint Weybridge/Cornwall energy committee. The Weybridge energy committee is considered one of the best in the State, and is very active and effective. Gary added that Joanna Miller from the Vermont Natural Resources Council helped Weybridge set up their energy committee. Weybridge will need approval from the Select Board for a joint energy committee. Don B. will talk to the Cornwall Select Board about the idea.

Don B. reported that he spoke with Maddison Shropshire at ACRPC regarding energy committees and energy resources and programs. These resources and programs include the Municipal Energy Resiliency Program, regional energy fairs, low-cost resources such as window inserts, and the process of making an Enhanced Energy Plan for the Town, a 50-75 page document. Towns promote saving energy and educate residents about energy issues. Residents in some towns have house parties to showcase home improvements that save significant energy.

### **• Updates about Community Outreach for Housing Committee**

Mickey H. reported that results of outreach so far have resulted in one person wanting to join a housing committee. He and Chet Van Dellen will continue their outreach efforts.

## **OTHER BUSINESS - none**

## **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Meeting Chair for the November meeting is Katherine Branch.
2. Meeting with the Select Board is scheduled for the November 15 meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Lauren R. MOVED / Mickey H. and Conor S. SECONDED a motion to adjourn the meeting.  
***Motion passed*** - 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Submitted by Sharon Tierra, Secretary of the CPC