

**Brandon Planning Commission
December 17, 2012**

Commissioners Present: Linda Stewart, Marty Feldman, Jeff Guevin, Anne Bransfield

Also Present: Tina Wiles, Zoning Administrator

7:10 p.m. meeting called to order.

Budget

The Planning Commission budget was discussed. The Planning Commission has \$2,000 right now. Including this amount, there will be \$4,000 in June.

Tina and Keith Arlund have begun researching projectors (for use in public presentations). They can be very expensive. A suggestion was made to find out about state surplus equipment.

Brandon-Based Code

The members discussed the Brandon-Based Code, leading to discussion regarding working with the Design Committee and other architects, designers, and planners on graphics and an illustrative plan for the Brandon Based Code. It was noted that different architects may be available around town to work with us on various phases of the code process.

Setbacks and other design elements in Brandon were discussed, including the setbacks along Park Street. Discussion followed regarding the condition and status of the Conant building.

Outreach

Jeff moved that we contact Hannaford's, Mr. Joseph Marone (new owner of the Conant building) and property owners in the vicinity of the Wildlife Corridor to get a dialogue going about regulations that will potentially impact them. Linda opposed the motion on the basis that we should not single out specific people for special treatment. Jeff argued that this would just be one more way to reach out to the community. Motion passed 3-1.

Segment 6

Anne moved to have a meeting with VHB re: Segment 6 in conjunction with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

Tina suggested that the Planning Commission may want to communicate with CLD vs. VHB, and that Anne should speak with Keith before proceeding on this matter. Agreed unanimously.

Capital Budget

It was noted that the Select Board was having a budget meeting at 7 am on Wednesday.

The Town's capital plan was discussed next. Tina mentions that she wrote one for Estabrook Park a few years ago. Could the RRPC assist creating a capital plan?

Jeff moved that Anne contact Keith re: the capital plan. The motion passed unanimously.

ZA Update

Tina suggested doing minor changes to the BLUO all at the same time. Brandon may need an abandoned buildings ordinance. Barre has a good one.

Tina said that the next Safe Routes to School meeting was January 23. She will see that Anne is invited. Discussion ensued about the Safe Routes to School program.

Tina also said that Keith Arlund was thinking about purchasing ARC GIS for the Town: was the Planning Commission interested in this tool? The members discussed without resolution.

Jeff updated the Commission on the status of the Brandon-Based Code mapping. He is looking at data from Steve Schild at the RRPC. He was also looking at the QGIS program, which seems to do what we will need it to do, mapping-wise.

Wildlife Corridor

The members discussed a proposed overlay district for the Wildlife Corridor: this could go to the Select Board at the same time as the setback-waiver update. Overlay review could occur through administrative process. Kate McCarthy of Vermont Natural Resources Council sent model legislation. Two community workshops will be held soon.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

The next Planning Commission will be Tuesday, January 22, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Bransfield, Chair
Brandon Planning Commission