

# UNDERHILL PLANNING COMMISSION

Thursday, February 28, 2019 @ 6:00 PM

Minutes

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## Attendance

### **Planning Commissioners:**

Commissioner Carolyn Gregson, Chair  
Commissioner Johnathan Drew, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Nancy Bergersen  
Commissioner David Edson  
Commissioner Pat Lamphere  
Commissioner Kail Romanoff  
Commissioner Sandy Wilmot

Commissioner Lea Van Winkle

### **Staff/Municipal Representatives:**

Andrew Strniste, Planning Director

### **Others Present:**

Resident, Val Stori (33 Tupper Road)  
Resident, Cynthia Seybolt (95 Pleasant Valley)

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[5:55] Members of the Planning Commission started to convene at Underhill Town Hall around 5:55 pm.

[6:05] The Chair, C. Gregson, was running late, and as a result, Vice Chair J. Drew called the meeting to order. No public was in attendance to provide public comment.

## AGENDA ITEM: 2020 TOWN PLAN – SURVEY QUESTIONS DISCUSSION

[6:05] Resident, Val Stori, inquired about why some of the questions no longer included a “no opinion” or “neutral” option. The Commission advised that those options were eliminated in order to force people to make an informed decision about the questions being asked. The Commission reviewed the updated survey, specifically in regards to edits made by Staff Member Strniste (edits were made based on previously discuss questions at the February 14, 2019 meeting). The Commission discussed question 2 and made various edits to the wording of some of the sub-questions.

[6:24] The Commission added a question inquiring if residents work at home. Commissioner Lamphere asked if the Town had a Chamber of Commerce. The Commission reviewed question 5 and made various edits. The Commission then discussed and debated several questions relating to the zoning districts, and made various changes. A discussion then ensued about rare species, specifically about including a question in the survey about the topic. Commissioner Edson had submitted rationales on why a question about rare species should not be included in the survey. Commissioner Drew rebutted that none of the identified circumstances by Commissioner Edson had occurred in the last 11 years. Commissioner Edson called for a vote on whether to leave the question about rare species in the survey. Four commissioners voted in favor of leaving the question in the survey, two voted against the question being in the survey, and Commissioner Van Winkle abstained. The question remained in the survey. The Commission clarify an inquiry made by Ms. Stori pertaining to the Vermont State goal of 90% renewable resources by 2050.

## AGENDA ITEM: 2020 TOWN PLAN – TOWN MEETING DAY SURVEY DISTRIBUTION STRATEGY

[7:09] The Commission discussed strategies pertaining to the distribution of the Town Plan survey. Specifically, Staff Member Strniste advised that he would post something on Front Porch Forum, and Commissioner Drew advised that he would make an announcement during Town Meeting

Day. The Commission also discussed putting a story in the Mt. Gazette newspaper. The following schedule for distributing the survey during Town Meeting Day was determined:

- 7:00am – 9:00am: Commissioners Van Winkle & Drew
- 9:00am – 11:00am: Volunteer Resident Stori
- 11:00am – 1:00pm: Commissioner Wilmot
- 4:00pm – 6:00pm: Commissioner Bergersen
- 4:00pm – 7:00pm: Commissioner Romanoff
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm: Commissioner Gregson

Staff Member Strniste advised that he would check with the Town Clerk, Ms. Sherri Morin, regarding where the Planning Commission could setup their displace. Commissioner Wilmot advised that she would help assemble the poster board.

**AGENDA ITEM: 2020 TOWN PLAN – SCHEDULING OF FORUMS**

[7:23] The Commission advised that they were willing to meet on a different day than Thursday. They agreed that the first public forum would be held on Saturday, April 6, at Deborah Rawson Library. Commissioner Wilmot advised that should inquire with the library about April 6.

[7:33] Commissioner Bergersen made a **motion to approve the minutes of February 14, 2019**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Drew and **approved unanimously**.

[7:49] All those Commissioners present at the evening's meeting will be present at the next Planning Commission meeting – March 14, 2019.

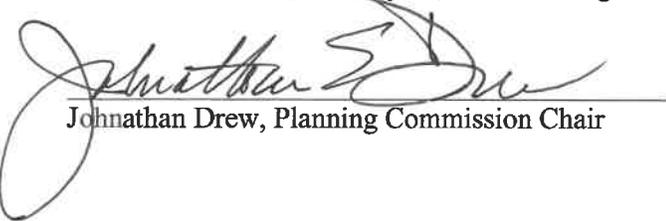
[7:52] Commissioner Drew made a **motion to adjourn**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bergersen and **approved unanimously**.

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Respectfully Submitted By:

Andrew Strniste, Planning Director

The minutes of the ~~February 28~~, 2019 meeting were accepted this 14 day of APRIL, 2019.

  
Johnathan Drew, Planning Commission Chair