

Minutes Plainfield Planning Commission

Monday August 2 2021

Present: Will Colgan, Jesse Cooper, Karen Storey, and Clare Rock.

Call to order

Jesse made the motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting which was May 17th. Karen seconded the motion and it was approved.

Clare Rock came to the meeting to provide advice on the draft zoning and applying for a municipal grant to give additional expertise on the draft. There was a discussion about small scale PUD's and how they can be used as a component in the new zoning.

Clare described the new round of Municipal Planning Grants that will become available. The new application is due on November 1st and will need a resolution from the Select Board for the cash match of 20 percent. There is also Covid recovery money for bylaw modification program that could be better for Plainfield. The guidance for that is not finalized, but should be in a few weeks. Will said the goal would be to bring the current draft into compliance with new state regulations and make it generally comparable to neighboring towns. Clare used the example of East Montpelier which tried an extensive zoning update that was a big leap for the town to digest all at once and suggested an approach with incremental changes over time rather than all at once. Will said it would be good to get the current draft, which is nearly complete, adopted on an expedited timeline.

The schedule for the grant program is:

Application Schedule for FY2022 Grants:

- Online application (GEARS) opens for use: September 1, 2021
- Regional Planning Commission (RPC) confirmation of municipal planning process (for eligibility): September 30, 2021
- **Application deadline: November 1 @ 6:00 p.m., 2021**
- Award decisions: Early December 2021
- Project completion deadline: May 2023

Will said he would contact the Select Board about the upcoming proposal for the municipal grant and Clare will update the Planning Commission on the recovery fund requirements.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40