

Morristown/Morrisville Planning Council
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Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2015

Planning Council Members Present: Andrea Beeman, Paul Griswold (Chair), Etienne Hancock, Yvette Mason, Max Paine, Tom Snipp & Mark Struhsacker

Planning Council Members Absent: None

Staff: Planning Director Todd Thomas

Guests: Richard “Buckwheat” Lowe

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order in the Community Meeting Room of the Tegu Building at 43 Portland Street at approximately 7:00 P.M.

Discussion: Review Town Plan Hearing Schedule – The Planning Council discussed the town plan hearing schedule. Mr. Thomas pointed out that the town plan hearing dates were advertised for May 18, June 8 and June 22 with the vote on the proposed town plan update taking place on July 6. Mr. Thomas reminded the Board that its next meeting would be Monday May 18th for first legislative body town plan hearing.

Discussion: BE Zone sidewalk discussion follow-up – Mr. Thomas related that the Selectboard signed the 11-11 access permit for Julie Marckres’ short section of sidewalk to be constructed at 1072 LaPorte Road. Member Struhsacker said that he thought it was a great injustice that Ms. Marckres was being made to build this sidewalk that did not connect to anything. Chair Griswold said that he thought the Council should work towards drafting a master plan for sidewalks. Mr. Thomas said that such a master plan already existed for the north end of town and that he would help Council members familiarize themselves with this report at the next meeting to find out if they wanted to replicate something like it for the south end of town.

Discussion: Zoning for dilapidated building facades – Mr. Thomas said that he recently sent letters under §440 of the zoning bylaw to Allen Foss and Chris Ransom regarding abandoned building sites that were consumed by fire and not rebuilt or fully demolished. He added that Mr. Foss resumed work on closing back in his Quonset hut on LaPorte Road since receiving the zoning letter and Chris Ransom would be meeting with the Selectboard on Monday night regarding his Foundry Street property. Mr. Thomas added that Gerry Sutton was also scheduled to meet with the Selectboard on Monday night regarding the appearance of his Bridge Street property.

Discussion: Summer zoning changes – Mr. Thomas led the Board through the proposed summer zoning changes, which included extending the CB Zone down Bridge Street to the Truck Route, eliminating the NC & LVGC Zones and the roll-out of the new conservation subdivision bylaw. The Board went through the proposed changes and agreed that they were ready for the zoning change that would take place after the legislative bodies decided on the pending town plan update. The Council, however, decided to leave the availability for Class 3 Development in the Commercial Zone. Mr.

Thomas said that he was also not going to delete the definition for Solar Energy System as proposed due to pending legislation.

Approve prior meeting minutes – Member Hancock moved to approve the April 21st meeting minutes. The motion was affirmed by a vote of 4-0, with Members Mason, Paine & Snipp abstaining.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM – submitted by Todd Thomas, Planning Director