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MORRISTOWN/MORRISVILLE
PLANNING COMMISSION
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Minutes of September 1, 2009

Members Present: Bill Henchey, Lauren Traister, Max Paine, Reeves Larson, John Meyer, Andrew Volansky, Paul Griswold

Members Absent:

Staff: Bill Rossmassler (LCPC Planner)

Guests:

Chairman Bill Henchey called the public meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All welcomed Lauren Traister back to the Commission. She will fill the remainder of Kelly Roger's term (through March 2011).

Bill H. asked Bill R. to bring Lauren up to date with where the current zoning update effort is at. Bill R. explained the Selectboard is almost finished with its review of the proposed changes; noting that they have decided not to change the proposed language for the proposed Business Enterprise District but they have decided to modify the proposed setbacks for the Chauvin property at the north end of town. The only remaining outstanding issue the Selectboard has to address and will be taking up at their next meeting on September 8th is the proposed retail cap of 75,000 square feet. Regarding the latter, Bill R. said he had been asked by the Selectboard to provide the relevant survey results regarding the retail cap issue and he asked the planning commission if they wanted him to share the talking points that had been developed. All agreed the talking points should be shared. The PC briefly discussed the idea of having a referendum vote on the retail cap issue at the next 2010 Town Meeting and all agreed this would be a good idea as long as there was a comprehensive education and outreach effort made the months beforehand.

Bill R. handed out a revised version of the FY'10 Planner Contract Schedule that he had circulated via e-mail. Bill R. gave an overview of the schedule, primarily focusing on the remainder of the calendar year and the first project – the VT Route 100 corridor zoning effort. Bill R. called the planning commission's attention to the expert panels that are being assembled and asked for confirmation and input. Before finalizing the schedule, however, Bill R. suggested the PC may want to have one last conversation with the Town Manager and the Selectboard to make sure all parties are comfortable with the contract language and on the same page as to what services LCPC is to be providing. The PC asked Bill R. to invite Dan and the SB to their next meeting to discuss this issue.

Assuming there are little changes to the contract and / or the schedule, Bill R. noted that one of the upcoming tasks for the PC will be to define the corridor or geographical scope for the 100 corridor zoning effort. The PC discussed and acknowledged that such definition may be influenced by the anticipated panel discussions, but it was likely there could be more than one district identified. The PC discussed the various uses along the corridor today, noting they were mixed, but that such mixed use have yet to affect the overall character of the corridor.

On a motion by John, seconded by Max, minutes of the August 18, 2009 meeting were reviewed and accepted as presented.

On a motion by John, seconded by Andrew, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted:
Bill Rossmassler

Minutes approved on: 9/15/09 (JM/LT)