

MORRISTOWN/MORRISVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 748 / MORRISVILLE, VT 05661
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Meeting Minutes of June 19, 2012

Members Present: Paul Griswold, Reeves Larson, Max Paine & Mark Struhsacker

Members Absent: John Meyer & Tom Snipp

Staff: Todd Thomas, Zoning Administrator & Planner

Guests: Resident Etienne Hancock of George Street

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 PM.

Approve prior meeting minutes – Mr. Hancock suggested a change be made to the meeting minutes regarding wind energy net-metering. The Board was amenable to the change. Member Struhsacker moved to approve the as-revised June 5, 2012 meeting minutes. A vote of 4-0 affirmed the motion.

Discussion: Prohibition on medical marijuana dispensaries – ZA Thomas said that the Selectboard asked the Commission to discuss and create zoning regarding medical marijuana dispensaries. ZA Thomas added that four such dispensaries were allowed in the State by the new medical marijuana legislation. The Board agreed unanimously that it should prohibit any dispensary from opening in Morrisville or Morristown. ZA Thomas said that he would prepare draft zoning language that prohibited medical marijuana dispensaries for the next Commission meeting.

Discussion: Discuss Town Plan Energy Chapter, wind energy – The Commission reviewed the draft Energy Chapter for the 2013-2018 Town Plan. Resident Etienne Hancock of George Street said that he thought the proposed changes from the last meeting were well executed, especially in regards to wind energy. Members Griswold asked ZA Thomas to clarify in the chapter that school costs were not included in the energy cost numbers (heating or transportation). Member Struhsacker asked ZA Thomas to add in footnotes explaining “net-metering” and “utility scale wind.” The Commission agreed that with the aforementioned changes, that the Energy Chapter was ready to be included with the Utility & Facility Chapter for a fall public hearing.

Discussion: Town Plan update schedule – The Commission decided to hold its July meetings on the 10th and the 24th due to the July 4th holiday.

Discussion: Sign size in the SID Zone (agenda addendum) – Member Struhsacker said that he thought the new Harrison Concrete sign on VT Rte 15E was too small. ZA Thomas said that this 6sf sign was the maximum size allowed by zoning. Member Struhsacker and Member Griswold said that the Commission should review this sign size requirement. Member Larson said that he thought the new sign at Fred’s Propane on VT Rte 15W might be an appropriate size for VT Route 15E. ZA Thomas said he would bring a proposal for an increased sign size for the SID Zone based on the Fred’s sign for

the next Commission meeting. ZA Thomas said that such a change would be drafted so it was only applicable to businesses within the SID Zone.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Todd Thomas, ZA