

MORRISTOWN/MORRISVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 748 / MORRISVILLE, VT 05661
Phone (802) 888-6373

Meeting Minutes of February 5, 2013

Present: Etienne Hancock, Paul Griswold, Reeves Larson, Max Paine, Mark Struhsacker & Tom Snipp

Members Absent: John Meyer (Chair)

Staff: Todd Thomas, Zoning Administrator & Planner

Guests: None

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:05 P.M.

Approve prior meeting minutes – Member Snipp moved to approve the January 15th meeting minutes. A vote of 4-0-2 affirmed, with Members Griswold & Larson abstaining.

Discussion: Review Town Plan – Zoning Administrator Thomas presented the entire draft Town Plan to the Commission. Member Griswold asked that the implementation plan be updated to note that the Town Plan is a living document and can be updated as issues arise. The Commission agreed that Mr. Thomas should add a sentence to the Community Profile Chapter tying possible growth to what is described in the Economic Development Chapter. Member Hancock suggested that the chapter entitled Statement Concerning Development Trends and Adjacent Municipalities should be made less specific, so it better stands the test of time. Mr. Thomas agreed to make these changes. Commission members did not have additional comments regarding other sections of the draft Town Plan. Mr. Thomas asked that members get in touch with him regarding additional changes or revisions before the plan was advertised.

Discussion (agenda addendum): Add capital section to Town Plan – Member Griswold said that the Commission should add a capital section to the Town Plan. He suggested offering a broad overview of the capital needs of the Town, Village and schools. He said that he thought having such a list would help defer frivolous capital requests from being brought before Town Meeting. The Commission agreed about the importance of having a capital plan. Mr. Thomas said that he would draft a general overview of the aforementioned capital needs for the next five years and present the proposed chapter to the Commission for its next meeting.

Discussion: Request by Sam Guy for Message Board – Mr. Thomas said that he received a request from Sam Guy, the owner of Guy's Farm and Yard on Portland Street, for a message board located up high on his grain silo. Mr. Thomas said that animated and internally lit signs are currently prohibited by zoning. Commission members said that they would like to help Mr. Guy, but were concerned about having such message boards located all over the downtown. The Commission decided to invite Mr. Guy to its next meeting to discuss this topic further.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM – submitted by Todd Thomas, ZA