

**MORRISTOWN/MORRISVILLE
PLANNING COMMISSION
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Minutes of January 21, 2003

Members Present: Julia Compagna, Sam Guy, Kelly Rogers, Bill Henchey, Bill Bourne

Members Absent: Bruce Tomlinson

Guests: Mike Miller (LCPC Planner), Kevin Lane, Steve Rae (Conservation Commission), Kathleen O'Neill

Julia called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. This was a warned public hearing of the Planning Commission to review the proposed revision of the Town Plan.

Kathleen O'Neill spoke regarding the Morristown Playground Improvement Project she is involved with. She is interested in seeing the project mentioned more prominently in various sections of the Town Plan in order to enhance the project's grant application. She specifically requested a stronger statement of support of the project in the Economic Development and Education sections, citing the project having a positive impact on downtown development efforts and making the central village area in the vicinity of the Graded School a more attractive destination for families. She also suggested including a comment regarding future playground improvements at the elementary school, so that any such future project could also favorably compete for grant funds.

Steve Rae, chair of the Conservation Commission, stated that he was generally pleased with the proposed revision and that it incorporates most of their agenda. He noted that the Conservation Commission recognizes the inherent conflict between two desirable goals: encouraging economic development and the jobs it brings and preserving the rural character of the town. He said those interested in shaping growth and development need to explore and identify tools and mechanisms for preserving farms and open spaces. No one method will work in all cases.

Julia commented that she hoped the Conservation Commission would continue to work closely with the Planning Commission in developing a detailed Land Use Plan and on any revisions to the Zoning bylaws stemming from the recommendations in the new Town Plan. She expressed a desire to work with all the municipal bodies in considering the creation of a broader range of zoning districts and categories. She said the Planning Commission was eager to move beyond the many planning studies that had been conducted in recent years to develop and implement concrete action proposals.

Sam moved to accept the proposed Town Plan revision with several minor changes discussed this evening and forward it to the Select Board and Village Trustees for their review and hearings. Bill Henchey seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Zoning Administrator will coordinate with the Town Administrative Assistant to schedule a joint meeting of the Planning Commission, Development Review Board, and Select Board (a meeting was subsequently scheduled for February 3, 2003).

Bill Henchey moved to adjourn the meeting and Kelly seconded the motion. All voting in favor of the motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Leonard, Recorder