

Sutton Planning Commission  
Minutes of meeting  
May 22, 2018, 6:00 pm  
Sutton Town Office

Attendees: Paul Brouha, Darlene Ahrens, Hank Parker, Lucien Belanger, Chip Devenger (Planning Commission), Alison Low (NVDA), Rich Nicol, Brandon Mazur (clerk)

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 P.M.

There were no additions or deletions to proposed agenda.

Brandon read the draft minutes of the most recent Planning Commission hearing and meeting on 3-27-18. The minutes were accepted as written.

The meeting then moved on to old business. Paul forwarded the Amended Unified Development Bylaws to the Select Board, who held a hearing on April 26, 2018. Darlene noted that the Select Board struck the 1/4-mile provision for zoning permit and subdivision notices. The Select Board approved the amendments and the updated Unified Development Bylaws are posted on the NVDA and Sutton websites.

Next, the Commission heard Alison's advice on how they might approach drafting the Act 174-recommended update of the Town Plan Energy Chapter, using Craftsbury's as a potential model. Renewable energy project siting and scale were the major concerns of Craftsbury's residents. Alison has, with Craftsbury, produced a draft town-level energy consumption analysis. The Sutton Planning Commission discussed the pros and cons of drafting a similar plan. Alison volunteered to begin work on an Energy Plan update which would grant the town "substantial deference" while noting that Sutton's Town Plan was due to expire October 24, 2018. Members agreed the Commission will minimally update the energy and other sections of the Town Plan to keep the Town Plan current. The Commission will work towards securing "substantial deference" later, through the amendment process.

The meeting then moved on to new business. To begin the work of drafting a Conflict of Interest and Ethical Conduct Policy for the Town of Sutton in concert with the Town Clerk, Paul asked the Commission members to read VLCT's Guidance Document and Model Policy for as a basis for such drafting.

Paul updated the Commission members on the VELCO subdivision application appeal.

Paul declared the meeting adjourned at 8:11 P.M.

These minutes prepared by Brandon Mazur.