

May 28, 2014 - Planning Board Meeting- Town of Sutton

Attendance: Alison Low, Gail Aloisio, Hank Parker, Joe Witt, Jeff Norris, Paul Brouha and Karla Barrett, clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

The minutes of the April 30, 2014 planning board meeting were read, corrections noted, accepted and clerk was instructed to provide copy to all board members and Town Clerk.

Paul let the board know that there is a subdivision request from Jerry Davis and a hearing will be warned in the paper for July 8, 2014.

Paul brought the board up to date on the Riendeau Gravel Pit- he has received a signed agreement- date April 24, 2014 between W.C. Railroad, the State of VT and Sutton Sand and Gravel. There has not been an insurance policy copy, as of yet. It was also noted that there has been some work done to the bridge, turn outs widened, but not sure if the RR crossing has been updated.

#3- on the agenda- Working lands overlay map- NRCS feels this map depicts the most productive land for Ag and Forestry. The land is based on the land soils- what can grow the best crops or trees. Soil surveys were done to determine this.

The board reviewed the Flood Attenuation Resources Map- this map complements the first map and will help determine working land soils.

The maps will also help to maintain watershed areas- so that they are not disturbed. Paul would like bridges marked on the map. Gail said that there is a site online-Vermont Online Bridge and Culvert Inventory Tool that will also show this information.

A motion was made by Jeff to use the Flood Attenuation Map as a selection criterion to determine working lands. Second the motion made by Joe. Motion passed.

There has not been a meeting scheduled with ANR and Joe has not been given a digital file overlay from Gail- but was given a site online that should be helpful.

V-DOT is scheduled to come on June 20- Alan May- VT Better Back Roads to evaluate roads and let the town know if there are funds available to help upgrade high priority roads.

#4- Paul has reviewed the records that are on file –he found them to be in 3 ring binders but note correlated to land transfers. They need to be indexed in alphabetical order, as is Burkes.

#5- Alison – presented a hardcopy power point- “Balancing the Pretty and Practical” – strategies for preserving Sutton’s working landscape.

Much of the language came from the Town Plan

Joe expressed 4 points of interest:

1. Guidelines for density based subdivision – we are working towards this
2. Easements on final parcels- needs to be addressed.
3. Minimum lot size needs to meet septic criteria
4. The board needs to dispel the myth that we are trying to pack people in as sardines.

Focus Groups-

How do we present it all? Do we focus on subdivisions, vision for the village, preserving working landscapes, commercial owners?? How many focus groups do we need? 2-3

Hank updated his progress on the application overviews. He noted that Burke’s is a lot better and ours definitely needs updating.

Motion to adjourn at 9:05 by Joe. Seconded by Hank, Meeting adjourned.

Next planning meeting will be held on June 25.

Respectfully submitted,

Karla S. Barrett

Minutes approved June 25th