

WEST WINDSOR PLANNING COMMISSION

Draft Minutes

July 24, 2019

Present: Al Keiller, Ray Shannis, Mike Dudley, Laura Stillson, Jason Rasmussen, BJ Harrington, Chris Nesbitt, Barbara Gerstner, Win Johnson, and Ken Parrot.

1. Call to Order —Chair Al Keiller called meeting to order at 6:31 PM. Noted as a joint meeting of the Conservation Commission and Planning Commission, there was not a quorum of Conservation Commission members present and therefore the meeting was only of the Planning Commission.
2. Changes or Additions—Sustainability project –Ray
3. Announcements /Public Comment—Ken Parrot, in response to the arrival and increased talk of Emerald Ash Borer (EOB) to Vermont, suggested the town should develop an EOB response plan. The state is willing to come and hold a training session concerning how to put an invasive species plan into place. He wanted to invite both commissions to be involved. The PC thought it was a great idea and suggested he invite surrounding communities to the training as well. Ken said he could work with Martha to get a training/information meeting planned for September.
4. Update to Town Plan —Al invited the Conservation Commission members present to give specific or general comments to any of the town plan updated chapters. As they hadn't formed an opinion as a group the members present didn't want to comment as the Conservation Commission but Chris, as a personal comment, brought up that the energy chapter appeared to consist of State boilerplate and not very specific to West Windsor. This led to a broader discussion about the how the language could be modified to fit both the State guidelines of an Enhanced Energy plan and specific for West Windsor. Al suggested that the Policies, i.e. the general things we as a town want to live by, can be more general than the recommendations, which would be more specific to West Windsor. Win said that a few years ago the town did an energy audit of all the town buildings—using the audit reports could be a good place to start for some specific recommendations on energy savings. Jason explained that the baseline data used in the chapter is from 2015. West Windsor currently has more rooftop solar now than in 2015. Using the maps generated by the State, West Windsor has more than enough potential renewable energy sites to meet future goals. Jason asked if there was any place in town where development should be prohibited other than places the state has already outlined? Again, sustainability as a stand-alone chapter came up. Al thought that creating a Sustainability Committee could be added as a Strategic Goal in Chapter 1. Review of Chapter's 7 and 2 were moved to the next meeting and Deb will ask Elizabeth Burrows to look over the Education Chapter for August.
5. Other Business—Sustainability update—Ray Shannis had most recently attended a webinar for EV stations. He continues to refine topics to address and identify people in the community who are committed to the project.
6. Approve Minutes—**Mike moved to adopt the June 24th minutes as written. Ray seconded; the motion passed unanimously.**
7. Adjourn— After setting the next meeting date for Wednesday August 21st, the meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deb Shearer