



Town of Mount Holly Planning Commission

Remote Electronic – Special Work Meeting Minutes

Wednesday February 3, 2021
7:00 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Jon McCann (Chair), Jim Seward (Vice Chair), Lisa Terreri (Secretary), Stephen Michel, Brigid Sullivan
Commission Members Absent: none
Also Present: Renee Sarmiento (Clerk), Gabrielle Macklin-Bickford, Okemo Valley TV

1. Jon called the meeting to order at 7 pm.
2. No changes to agenda.
3. Town Plan Revisions
 - a. Discussion of Community Wildlife review of Town Plan
 - i. Agreed with suggestions from Andy Wood to amend Overall Goals section to incorporate forestry integrity into several of the goal statements.
 - ii. Modified Goal 7 to include “healthy, unfragmented working lands to sustainable agriculture and forestry...”
 - iii. Modified Goal 15 to include “expanses of forestland, wetlands, streams and other features...” and “...including, but not limited to other types...”
 - iv. Modified Goal 17 to drop the word “lowland”
 - v. Agreed with recommendations for History section. We will consult with state archaeologists, state geologists, and town historians.
 - vi. Agreed with recommendations for Wetlands section, including showing regulated wetlands on land use map in Town Plan.
 - vii. Agreed more work is needed to inventory and map vernal pools
 - viii. Agreed to go increase details in Town Plan specifying and characterizing Core Forests, Connections, and Corridors by using data available in Biofinder, Arrowwood Report, and in field studies.
 - ix. Agreed to consider adding the recommended sections to identify and map Natural Communities, RTE and Uncommon Species, and Wildlife Habitat and use the 2008 Natural Heritage Element Inventory and Assessment for Mount Holly as a resource.
 - x. Agreed to include more information on public benefits of habitat, the connection between climate change and habitat, and invasive species.
 - xi. Jon McCann made suggestion of involving local schools in a project to help identify Invasive Species, Vernal Pools, and Wetlands.
 - xii. Agreed to carefully consider strengthening policy language, detailing more implementation strategies for each section and/or goal, and directly addressing criteria of Act 250 and Section 248.

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- b. Reviewed “Arrowwood Report” as a resource for improving/amending inventories, assessments, and policy recommendations in the Town Plan.
- c. Process for moving forward was discussed
 - i. Review information from State Archaeologist
 - ii. Review information from State Geologist
 - iii. Seek collaboration with Conservation Commission to supplement inventories
 - iv. Compare and contrast old Mount Holly Town Plans that are now digitized
- 4. Public Comments: none
- 5. Upcoming meetings
 - a. Regular meeting – February 17th, 7:00 pm (3rd Wednesday)
 - b. Working meeting - March 3rd, 7:00 pm (1st Wednesday)
- 6. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

For the Commission,
Lisa Terreri, Secretary

In draft form until approved on February 17th, 2021