

CALAIS PLANNING COMMISSION

March 19, 2019 Meeting

Minutes

Members present: Jan Ohlsson (Chair), John McCullough (Clerk), Melanie Kehne
Others attending: See attached sign-in sheet.

The meeting convened at 7 p.m. at the East Calais Post Office and Recreation Center. Several shoreland property owners and other interested persons attended, including Selectboard Chair Denise Wheeler, Development Review Board Chair Peg Bowen, and Larry Bush from the Conservation Commission. It was also filmed by ORCA Media.

After introductions, Jan Ohlsson provided a brief powerpoint presentation on current Shoreland District zoning, the Vermont Shoreland Protection Act, and the draft Shoreland Overlay District zoning revisions currently under consideration by the Planning Commission. John McCullough presented maps of #10 Pond/Mirror Lake, Nelson Pond, and Woodbury Lake showing the different scenarios.

The Planning Commission answered questions and heard public comment and discussion of the draft zoning revisions, the state shoreland permitting program, and related issues, including:

- Whether Calais zoning should be more protective than the Shoreland Protection Act, in terms of regulating more impervious surface and/or land across public roads.
- Grandfathering of mowing.
- The role of public roads in shoreland and water quality protection.

The Planning Commission also asked for input on the North Calais Village District's size and configuration. A North Calais resident suggested expanding the North Calais Village District to include the property on North Calais Road that was once the site of the original Vermont Country Store, and the property that was once the site of the #10 Schoolhouse in Calais, on GAR Road.

Chair Jan Ohlsson asked if there were any other issues of concern, then thanked everyone for attending and providing feedback. She noted that shoreland zoning is one of several issues the Planning Commission is working on, including river corridor zoning and surface water protections. Working drafts will be posted online from time to time as the Planning Commission continues to work on these issues.