

# CALAIS PLANNING COMMISSION

## April 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Members Present via ZOOM: Jan Ohlsson, Melanie Kehne, John McCullough

Guests/visitors: Joshua Schultz, Kristan Schultz, Gary Schultz, & Charlie Flower (near-by residents of TH 7) and Reed Cherington (Calais Trails Committee)

- 1) Convened circa 7:00 via ZOOM
- 2) TH 7 (Town Highway 7)
  - a. Joshua Schultz spoke of noisy motorized vehicles such as ATVs and mudders using and damaging the road, even late into the evening. He continued, saying that walkers were fine with him, and that he wouldn't want to see the road closed to pedestrians.
  - b. Reed Cherington spoke about "dedication and acceptance" as a legal process in which a town may come to "own" a road. Reed also wondered why the Selectboard only allotted 15 minutes on their agenda for their upcoming April 16 site visit/ TH 7 walk-through. Reed was not convinced that all the abutting property owners received notification of the site visit. He concluded with a request that someone (the PC?) develop a clear and comprehensive policy for roads and their discontinuance and/or conversion to other uses such as trails.
  - c. Jan Ohlsson and John McCullough said that they intended to attend the April 16<sup>th</sup> TH 7 site visit.
  - d. Charlie Flower said that he felt that the concerns of long time Calais residents should be given priority over "newcomers and out-of-staters" that may have an interest in the use of TH 7.
  - e. Gary Schultz recounted a story about when the scenic Allagash River in Maine became part of the U.S. government's National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. He told of the unintended negative impact on the river by tourists and visitors.
- 3) The PC was informed of the approval by the state for a new North Calais and an amended Adamant Village Center Designation.
- 4) Review of PC Rules of Procedure and a review of the definition of "structure" in the Regs was put off until the April 19<sup>th</sup> PC Meeting.
- 5) The Web Map
  - a. The PC will ask Ashley Adams at Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission to modify the Calais Web Map so that both the ANR River Corridor map and the ANR Small Streams (.5 – 2 sq. mi. drainage area) be toggled on when the River Corridor layer is turned on. This is similar to how River Corridors are displayed on other ANR maps.
  - b. Also, Ashley Adams will be asked to remove the Fluvial Erosion Hazard (FEH) areas layer from the Web map. Note that FEH, by itself, is not referenced in the Calais Zoning Regs. The ANR River Corridor map referenced in the proposed Regs is the FEH plus a 50' buffer.
- 6) Some discussion of upcoming Public Hearings regarding the proposed changes to the Zoning Regs
- 7) Meeting adjourned 8:37p.m.