

CALAIS PLANNING COMMISSION (PC)

October 29, 2024 Minutes

Meeting via ZOOM

PC Members Present: Jarrod Weiss, Kathy Hentcy, Melanie Kehne, Vicky Arthur, Gary Root, John McCullough

1. Meeting convened around 7:00 p.m.
2. Minutes of Oct 15 approved with deletion of reference to MS Word
3. Town Plan (TP)
 - a. Update: no PC meeting on November 5 (election day). Moved to November 12
 - b. At Selectboard (SB) Meeting on November 4, Agriculture section given cursory review. SB had questions that need Gary Root to address.
 - c. Someone in Maple Corner (Keyes?) has Ag and Ag Econ experience. Gary will connect with this person.
 - d. Vicky Arthur reported that SB is pretty content with Flood Resilience Section. They would like to see some Climate Change language.
 - e. In general, the SB wants to see a much shorter TP. It had been suggested that the 2025 TP may hit over 130 pages. (Note: the current Calais TP as amended in 2021 is 176 pages.)
 - i. Some discussion about writing a plan with a separate appendix. Would this, in effect, make two versions of the TP? Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) will be asked about this.
 - ii. Discussed a simple direction/goal oriented, bare-bones plan vs. narrative. Is there a “Goldilocks” version between bullet-pointed goals and a Calais almanac?
4. John McCullough offered to draft up a calendar with drop-dead dates for required TP submissions to SB, for Public Hearings, CVRPC, etc.
5. It was agreed that the SB will get a formatted version of TP, rather than working draft version.
6. New Business: PC feelings about the Town’s interest in the purchase of the Pelchuck slate quarry on County Road. Town is considering this as a source of crushed ledge (crushed on -site) for Town roads.
7. Still needing PC review is Natural Resource Section.
8. Meeting concluded circa 8:30