

Vershire Planning Commission Minutes for 4/13/22 approved

In attendance: Bill Baylis-Chair, Bob Perkins, Eleanor Zue, Nicole White-Fogarty, Debra Kingsbury-Sec'y, Guest: Reva Seybolt Bill called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Minutes from 3/9/22 were reviewed and approved.

New business: Reva came as the representative for the Town Center Building Committee to discuss the concept of building a 40x20 covered pavilion to the rear of the TCB in the recreation field area. She has researched "Better Places Grants" terms and conditions and has been told that if the town had a "designated village" status that would assist in the qualifications when applying for funding. She has interacted with Richard Amore from Community Planning and Revitalization, VT Dept. of Housing and Community Development and shared how the grant ratios are split/ or matched depending on fund raising for a project. Reva was asking for the Planning Commission to spear head and make a recommendation to the Selectboard and asked if they would invite other town Boards to their May meeting to hear from Mr. Amore about the village designation process/requirements for available or potential grant programs. The concept of "crowd funding", and processing those funds through a 501c3 organization, such as VerShare, were also discussed. Baylis shared his concerns about the placement of a future pavilion due to the septic tank and leach field areas and that the design from years back in the town records is not accurate. He added that any future pavilion would need to have a dirt base, not concrete, with some type of footings, as any large equipment/trucks, especially concrete truck would not be able to go across the septic area. Nicole stated that she was researching the ball field area on behalf of the recreation committee, and to see if there were funds to help with the aspect of improving the ball field/equipment etc. It was noted that Corinth, Bradford, and Chelsea have all done some recreation field improvements and perhaps it would be prudent to interact/contact with those sources for guidance. The Commission voted to invite Richard Amore to the May 12th meeting at 7pm. Reva will contact him and confirm.

Other new business: The Law firm of DRM has contacted the Town about adding an additional array on the existing cell tower at the Ulman property off Rte 113. All commission members expressed their concern that anyone other than T-Mobile users don't have access to cell service at present along Rte 113 and in most of Vershire and felt it very important for emergency service needs, as well as for all town officials and highway crews for safety reasons. It was agreed that a letter should be drafted to Green Mountain Holdings to verify if Verizon was going to be part of the new array and insure that travelers along Rte 113 would be able to access. Nicole stated that it would be nice if cell service for emergency personnel was free of charge. The Commission made a motion to have Debra contact GMH to verify cell service access to Verizon carriers.

Old Business: Nicole stated that concerns on Taylor Valley are continuing. Trash is going into adjacent properties. Debra will reach out to Sande, who was not in attendance, to ask for an update. Announcements; Town Garage Informational meeting will be held 4/23 at 2PM at the TCB. Eleanor sated that Green Up day is May 7th—and that the large green collection bags are available now at the Durgin Recycle site.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07PM