

**Town of Vershire Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 7:00pm* at the Vershire Town Center.
There will be a remote option for this meeting via Zoom or by phone.
*Agenda noted we met at 6:30. We shared a meal before the meeting at 7pm**

Attendance: Gregory Wilson-chair, Eleanor Zue-vice chair, Seann Cram, Meghan Asbury-TRORC, and Gretchen Harvey-secretary.

Call to Order: G. Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Agenda Review & Modifications: None at this time.

Approval of Minutes: G. Wilson moved to approve the regular meeting minutes from 7/12/23. S. Cram seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public & Staff Comments: Alex Myers, director of The Mountain School, arrived at 7pm to discuss new and creative ways the town and The Mountain School might develop relationships through shared activities. The PC is also hoping to get feedback on how a broader perspective on education can be incorporated in the Town Plan currently under revision. All agreed that the historical interactions between the town and TMS: snowshoe-a-thon, fall festival, etc. are great events that bring the community and the students together. The MTS also has students interact with local farmers as part of their mission—of working for the common good and getting to know a place and to take care of it—but the question is: are there other ideas or opportunities that could be explored for community engagement between TMS and Vershire.

Some ideas discussed included: opening up more TMS events to the public, hosting speakers or events that would be of special interest/value to residents in Vershire, helping to house nationally recognized speakers/authors if they are brought to Vershire, and collaborating on a community garden for the purpose of supplying the food shelf. G. Wilson asked if there was a way to form a small group that would brainstorm ideas for such interactions—workshops, speakers, music/dance events, artist visits, etc. A. Myers agreed this would be possible. Another idea that came up involved holding events at the Ely mine site once it has been fully reclaimed: such as star gazing, hawk/raptor migrations, or other site-appropriate events.

Town Plan Revisions: The majority of the rest of the meeting involved Megan and the PC going through the sections where they made editing suggestions on a G-doc copy of the existing TP. She will add some text but will track all the changes for everyone to see.

Next Meeting with Megan Asbury to discuss TP revisions: October 11 at 7pm. The topics to review will be: Housing, Energy/Sustainability, and Natural Resources—Future Land Use.

Upcoming Topic Forums:

- August 23—Energy —there was discussion about whether or not to use the word sustainable/sustainability.
- September 27-Natural Resources & Future Land Use/Tentative

Adjourn: G. Wilson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm. S. Cram seconded. The motion passed unanimously.