

APPROVED

HUNTINGTON PLANNING COMMISSION
Minutes October 23, 2017



PRESENT: Terry Ryan, Everett Marshall, Shayne Jaquith, Joe Segale

ABSENT: Carmen Tedesco

OTHERS PRESENT:

MINUTES: Heidi Racht

RECEIVED
FOR RECORD
DATE November 29
2017

AGENDA:

- 7 pm Public Comment
 - Minutes of October 9
 - Mail (none to date)
- 7:10 Town Plan
- 8:10 Budget – finalize for submission to Selectboard
 - Brief discussion – November 6 Selectboard Public Hearing on Town Plan Map revision
 - Member Business
 - Next meeting - set date
- 8:30 Adjourn

The meeting began at 7:04 pm; chaired by Everett Marshall.

Public Comment: No public present.

Minutes of September 25: Joe Segale moved to approved with minor changes; second by Terry Ryan. Approved unanimously.

Mail: none.

Budget:

The Commission finalized the 2018-2019 budget request for submission to the Selectboard. More discussion occurred around the legal fees for the Commission with the conclusion that a realistic amount should be submitted; \$500 was put in the budget request.

MOTION: Shayne Jaquith moved to approve the budget for submission; seconded by Joe Segale. Approved unanimously.

Racht will submit to the Selectboard before November 1.

Town Plan:

Everett Marshall began the discussion by giving kudos to Terry Ryan for his work organizing the work to be done on the Town Plan as the Commission moves into its next phase of work.

Ryan acknowledged the accolades.

The first order of discussion was to determine how to go about doing the sections and distilling the

goals. The Commission discussed reducing the number of goals and whether the HPC should do this work or it should be given to other boards and committees.

Segale commented that the goals should be approached: "Is what's being planned feasible in an eight-year time frame." Ryan suggested one or two points per section. He noted that the list in the current Town Plan was either overwhelming or the implementation groups didn't look at it.

Marshall proposed achievable goals - and other goals that have a longer implementation time could be mentioned in the text. It is important to not drop them in this version.

Ryan's list has over 200 lines. Joe Segale proposed checking to see who is responsible for implementation. Ryan added that the goals be approached by asking, "Is there a status. Is it still important?" The committees should be asked, "What are your two priorities?" Segale then said, "It needs to be connected back to the Town Plan. Otherwise, why is it in there?"

Transportation. How should the Commission handle ideas that aren't going to go anywhere? The long-term priorities? And, who is going to do this? Segale asked, "Do we have the resources to carry it out?" The town does not have the resources to pay people to do the work and so would be dependent on volunteers. An example of this is shared transportation: the town could publicize Go Vermont as a way to implement this goal.

Shayne Jaquith talked about Smart Goals, explaining that this model is "results focused, time bound, reasonable and achievable." Ryan remarked that the problem with Smart Goals is "we will stop seeing things."

Looking at the list, Ryan stated, "Most of these are not achievable in eight years."

Salient points:

1. The SSTA service to residents. The Commission looked at the Town Report and could not find the line item match from the town. Racht will ask about this and then report back. The idea of a developing a Transportation Committee was discussed.
2. Road conditions.
3. Mowing invasives.

Water/Wastewater. Segale indicated that this topic is "critical." The study done with the MPG needs to be examined to move this to the front of the goals. Marshall remarked that the town needs to approach landowners indicated in the study. Ryan concluded that this "goes back to the official town map."

Segale queried where is the Selectboard going to get the money to make the purchase.

1. First step is an article at Town Meeting to authorize the Selectboard to purchase land for water/wastewater.
2. A small committee, headed by an expert volunteer
3. Buy an option on the land
4. Come up with a plan to move this forward

Ryan: this is a concrete step.

Marshall: implementation item is to ask for support from the town.

Segale: this is a Planning Commission responsibility.

Energy.

1. implementation item #2 is a HPC responsibility.
2. No Vermont Telecommunication Authority – #3 done by PSB.
3. Address towers on ridgeline

Segale suggested combining transportation and utilities; could lead to an Economic Development Committee. More discussion.

Discussion of buried wires.

Senior Housing. General discussion included: what is the town's role in Senior Housing? What is the overall goal? Make Huntington a place where seniors can have a healthy and prosperous life. This should be encouraged in the regs.

Ryan: walking paths.

Segale: decent transportation, access to services, access to medical

Ryan: town's responsibility if to make this possible. Responsibility would fall to volunteers.

Marshall: Emily Nosse-Leier suggested combining Elderly Housing and Housing.

Childcare.

Segale: the town shouldn't have to regulate. What should the town be doing?

Discussion: Childcare section is mandatory. What should the goals do?

1. Role of school.
2. Put information on town website that points to state and regional resources.

Recreation.

1. recreation and open space
2. look at town highways for scenic byways and bike lanes.

Marshall: recreation for kids; local trails

Segale: Scenic Byways program doesn't exist anymore; process needed for identifying byways; core plan – look at opportunities. Example of this is the Appalachian Gap pull off – long-term HPC goal.

More discussion on trails. The Selectboard and HPC are support groups. Someone is needed to talk with landowners. Ryan talked about HART, now maintained (town affiliated). Other topics included the existing recreation paths and kiosks.

Economic Development Plan.

Implementation: Establish a Huntington Economic Development Commission or Committee (EDC) to work on Town specific business issues.

Remove Land Links.

J aquith: section should something to support agriculture

Segale: need endeavor like food hub

J aquith: give entrepreneurs something to point to

Talked about whether the town roads can support this.

Moving Forward:

1. send out list to Boards/Committees (only pertinent sections)
2. look at Mission, Vision, Goals
3. Guiding Principles

Ryan: not every goal is a short goal – some are philosophical on how to get it done, not who will do it

Guiding Principles discussion:

Ryan: quality of life infrastructure – housing, transportation , childcare

Segale: is there a relationship between goals in each section and Guiding Principles

Ryan: not a difference between goals and implementation

MEMBER BUSINESS:

1. Racht – reminder of Selectboard’s Public Hearing on the Regs is December 18
2. Ryan – Open House – dessert for town volunteers on November 2

NEXT MEETING: November 13.

ADJOURNMENT: Terry Ryan moved to adjourn; second by Everett Marshall. The meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Draft Minutes on town website: November 6, 2017

Unapproved Minutes to HPC: November 6, 2017

Minutes Approved: November 13, 2107

Minutes submitted to Town Clerk: November 20, 2017