

Townshend Planning Commission

Minutes

Minutes August 14, 2024

- Present:** Bob DeSiervo, Rick Matschke, Liza Martin and Andrew Snelling
1. **Call to Order:** Vice Chair DeSiervo called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.
 2. **Additions and Deletions:** none
 3. **Members of the Public:**
 4. **Approval of Minutes:** DeSiervo moved, and Matschke seconded a motion to approve the minutes for the July 24, 2024 meeting as submitted. The motion passed.
 5. **Correspondence:** none
 6. **Old Business:**

Town Plan: Snelling led a discussion on the draft language for the Forest section in the Natural Resources chapter. The Commission compared the new draft language related to Act 171 with the current language and looked at the BioFinder maps. Snelling observed that the BioFinder maps show that most of Townshend is either Highest Priority or Priority Forest Blocks. Unlike other areas of the State, Townshend doesn't currently have a problem with forest fragmentation. The plan language and policies will need to focus on practices that conserve the existing large tracts, especially the central ridge lines.

Town Hall: DeSiervo reported that he had scheduled a meeting on Friday morning with architect Mark Thaler, to quote on preparing the plans and bid specs for the Town Hall work. Snelling noted that Evans told him that Peter Welch from Cotton Associates is scheduled for Friday afternoon.

State Park bridge: Matschke informed the Commission that he had spoken with the Dept. of Parks and they will be rebuilding the bridge for the Bald Mountain trail.
 7. **New Business:**

Windham Windsor Housing Trust: DeSiervo said that he is meeting with a representative from Windham Windsor Housing Trust on August 27th to discuss affordable housing requirements in the area and discuss possible solutions.
 8. **Meeting Schedule:**

Regular Meeting: August 28, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting: September 11, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.
 9. **Adjournment:** Vice Chair, DeSiervo, seeing no further business to come before the Commission, adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Andrew Snelling