

Shaftsbury Planning Commission
September 11, 2018

1. The meeting came to order at 7:05 p.m. Present were commissioners Chris Williams (chair), Mike Foley, and Mike Cichanowski. Also present was Select Board chair Tim Scoggins, and zoning administrator Shelly Stiles. The group observed a moment of silence in memory of those who lost their lives on 9.11.01 and in the wars afterward.
2. Mr. Cichanowski moved to approve the August 14, 2018 meeting minutes. Mr. Foley seconded the motion. In discussion, the ZA was asked to spell out the acronym BATS, Bennington Area Trail System. The motion passed 3-0-0.
3. Town Plan.

It must be fully revised by April 10, 2019 if it is to be adopted by the Select Board before it expires. Mr. Scoggins said the Select Board would like to see the following incorporated in the Plan: the Town should adopt a replacement schedule for its highway equipment (Mr. Scoggins has a draft schedule that needs to be revised); the Town should rebuild approximately one mile of road annually, and restore the gravel surface routinely, on a schedule to be adopted by the Select Board.

Re the Table of Uses in the bylaw, commission agreed to propose changes as suggested by the DRB. The schedule for getting the bylaw changes on the town meeting ballot was discussed.

Town Plan section 9. Mr. Scoggins said it should mention the replacement of the town's 75 year-old concrete asbestos water mains. The engineering study was done by Otter Creek. Mr. Scoggins also suggested that the Plan address Cole Hall. Mr. Cichanowski suggested we get citizen input on what to do with the site of the old garage. Mr. Williams said a study of Cole Hall was done about nine years ago.

The group discussed the water system and agreed to contact Jim McGinnis about its various elements, and perhaps get a tour. (Joe Barber will be invited to the tour as well.) It was agreed that the Plan would not recommend pursuing a municipal waste water treatment system. "We can't ask the citizens to spend a million dollars and hope for growth."

Map 9.1 must be updated. It will be nearly impossible to accurately map cable and cell service. Provider statements about their service area can't be trusted. Mr. Scoggins mentioned a community-based cable company called ECVT. The Plan should include encouragement to join in any initiative to build community-based broad band.

Mr. Scoggins told the commission that the Bennington Rescue Squad now receives \$15,000 from the Town, via a budget line item. (They had asked for \$40,000.)

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.