

Shaftsbury Planning Commission
July 2, 2019

The meeting **came to order** at 6:04 pm. Present were commissioners Chris Williams (chair), Mike Foley, Naomi Miller, and Mike Cichanowski. Select Board chair Tim Scoggins was also present, as were Michael Batcher, regional planner with BCRC, and zoning administrator Shelly Stiles.

Ms. Miller moved to approve the April 23 **minutes**. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. Mr. Cichanowski moved to approve the May 14 minutes. Mr. Foley seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. Mr. Foley moved to approve the May 28 minutes. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

Mr. Williams asked the group to put aside pride of authorship in order to make the Plan as best as it can be. Mr. Cichanowski noted that he now has four pieces of editing to incorporate in the document, and he doesn't have the time to do it.

Mr. Foley said he saw the plan as something of a wish list. Ms. Miller said she saw it as both wish list and guide to action.

The group turned to the **Energy chapter**, which had been edited by Mr. Batcher. He said the commission had agreed that an enhanced energy plan was too much effort for questionable gain. Mr. Batcher said he thought the plan as written would satisfy the Regional Commission and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (though he will confirm that), but the Public Utility Commission requires an enhanced energy plan if the Plan is to be carry much weight in their decision-making. (It will never carry "absolute" weight; the PUC can always entirely ignore it.) The commission reiterated their unwillingness to pursue an enhanced energy plan.

Mr. Williams said the energy projection tables in Mr. Batcher's 6/28/19 memo could be summarized in a couple of paragraphs.

The group discussed some specific actions in the energy plan, which simply restate the state's goals. Mr. Scoggins wished to delete most of them. Mr. Batcher will review the "Scoggins" version to see if it meets statutory requirements.

The group turned to the **Natural Resources** chapter. Mr. Williams said the town had little history of flooding. To adopt a river corridor bylaw would be overkill. Mr. Batcher discussed occasional gatherings at which community leaders could share ideas as to what they would do in an emergency.

Whether to promote the mapping of groundwater resources was discussed. Changes were made. Mr. Batcher said Marjorie Gale, state geologist, has been identifying aquifers using well logs.

The reference to the Community Rating System was deleted. Too much work. Those owners of homes in the floodway could be notified of the availability of flood insurance.

Mr. Batcher said that after TS Irene, communities discovered that FEMA would not reimburse for work performed for neighboring communities unless flooding or emergency mutual aid agreements were in already in place. Batcher will send Mr.Scoggins a template BCRC has prepared for such agreements.

Mr. Scoggins will write a paragraph or two about the **arts economy**.

Ms. Stiles will take over editing, using Word.

The next meeting will be held July 9. Mr. Williams will be away. Mr. Cichanowski will be away on July 16. Ms. Stiles will warn the July 9 meeting.

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 8:30 pm.

Minutes by ZA Stiles.