

Shaftsbury Planning Commission  
August 13, 2019

The meeting came to order at 6:04 pm. Present were commissioners Chris Williams (chair), Mike Foley, and Mike Cichanowski. Also present were select board chair Tim Scoggins, BCRC regional planner Michael Batcher, and zoning administrator Shelly Stiles.

The group turned to review of the latest draft of the revised town plan.

- Mr. Williams will send Ms. Stiles a new photo for the cover page. Artist Frank Howard should be identified as “Shaftsbury landscape painter.”
- Mr. Williams took issue with the language in goal 14.2, also on p. 4. It was changed to “Shaftsbury should work to build relationships with neighboring towns, Bennington County, and southern Vermont, and seek regional economic opportunities.”
- P 14, para 2, reference to mandatory flood insurance changed to “where the purchase of flood insurance is required by lenders.”
- In Historic Preservation, Mr. Foley said he would talk with Mitch Race about the possible sale of the old church in Center Shaftsbury. Mr. Scoggins said he’d talked with Mr. Race and thought that it was only an idea that has been floated but not acted upon. Mr. Foley said Race had enlisted a realtor. (No change to the Plan language was suggested.)
- P 22, add to actions: “Urge Vtrans to establish bicycle lanes on Route 7A in Shaftsbury.”
- P 40, table 10: Mr. Batcher will add that content to the appropriate map and the table will be deleted.
- Add definition of “riparian.”
- P 17: move language in title block to table row 1.
- P 20: “recognizes” not “recognized.”
- P. 34: delete references to Dailey and Tam.
- P 32, add: fix sentence re ice rink
- Search for Fitzgerald Environmental and confirm “Associates” not “Association.”
- P 26, strike second “quality” in first goal statement.

Mr. Cichanowski moved to approve the Plan for public hearing, posting, publishing and mailing. Mr. Foley seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

Mr. Foley moved to approve the July 23 minutes. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

Mr. Foley said he'd gone through the plan to list the actions it proposes or the Planning Commission. They are:

- Routinely review zoning map
- Work with ANR on river issues
- Work on high priority forest blocks
- Map aquifers
- Highlight Lake Shaftsbury trails
- Map the municipal forest

Mr. Cichanowski said he has a personal interest in working on telecommunications, and roads.

It was agreed that the August 27 meeting will be canceled.

Mr. Scoggins reported that he's been in conversation with Consolidated Communications regarding a partnership they have entered into with the town of Chesterfield, NH, in which world class broadband will be provided to every home in the town using a bond to be financed by a \$10 monthly user fee. Vermont recently passed a law authorizing such partnerships and providing planning grants of up to \$60,000 to develop them. Mr. Foley asked if Consolidated is competitive with other service providers.

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:25 pm.

Notes by ZA Stiles.