## Richmond Planning Commission

Wednesday, October 17th, 2018

Unapproved Minutes

Members Present: Brian Tellstone, Alison Anand, Scott Nickerson, Virginia Clarke, Mark Fausel

Others Present: Jessica Draper, Town Planner; Bard Hill, Selectboard Chair; Chris Granda, Joshua Arneson, and Judy Rosovsky

Called to Order: 7:15 pm

Informational Meeting

 Jessica gave an overview of the town plan process and contents. Mark Fausel expressed why it’s important to have an approved town plan. Judy thanked the planning commission for all of their work. Bard reiterated Judy’s point. Chris also thanked the planning commission for their impressive efforts. Jessica explained the various consequences of not having a town plan including loss of grant eligibility, loss of village center designation, loss of standing in Act 250 and Section 248 proceedings, loss of standing in creation of other state and regional plans, inability to adopt any new zoning regulations, and inability to adopt a capital plan and budget. Bard asked if materials will be available at the polls on Election Day, and Jessica said she planned on giving Linda copies of the plan and FAQs. Mark thanked everyone for coming, and closed the informational portion of the meeting.

Administrative Items

 Mark introduced Josh to the rest of the planning commission as the new Town Manager. Josh gave a brief introduction about himself. The commission started discussing the implementation of the town plan action items. The commission asked her to sort the actions by who they were assigned to, and Mark decided that he wants to meet with those assigned groups in person to discuss the actions over the next few months. Jessica said she would pull out the tasks that are marked as “ongoing” and do check-ins to determine if those tasks are being done and who is doing them to identify point-persons. Virginia said she had pulled all of the planning commission’s actions out of the table and sorted them into categories in order to condense repetitive actions and identify areas to focus on for zoning changes. Jessica said she would send out an excel version of the implementation table to everyone that is sortable by timeframe and responsible party. Jessica told the commission that a couple of non-zoning related tasks coming up include the energy plan certification from regional planning, UPWP applications, and reapplying for our village center designation from the state. She also said that she found the log of potential zoning changes that had been kept by previous planners and ZA’s. The commission asked her to combine that list with the zoning tasks identified in the plan. The commission also suggested that a public listening session be held to hear from the public about their zoning concerns. The commission briefly discussed the agenda for the next meeting on 11/7, which is the day after the town plan vote. It was decided that the 11/7 agenda will include some scheduling for 2019. They also decided that they would not hold their regularly scheduled commission meetings that fall on 11/21 and 12/19 due to the upcoming holidays. Jessica said she would reach out to other towns to ask how they formed their housing committees. Brian asked the commission if they thought the zoning changes would be piecemeal or an entirely new set of regulations. Jessica said that the 2012 failed zoning warrants strong consideration of piecemeal changes as opposed to wholesale changes. Jessica said she would send out copies of the failed 2012 draft zoning changes. Scott asked if anyone thought that the community was more receptive to major changes now than they were back then. Mark said he thought they were, but that the current planning commission also has a broader and more inclusive representation of the community. A brief discussion of climate change followed.

Adjourn

 Brian made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Alison, all were in favor.

 Adjourned 8:30 pm