

Richmond Planning Commission

Regular Meeting

October 3, 2012

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Gary Bressor (Chair), Lou Borie (Vice-Chair), Mark Fausel, Dan Renaud, Christy Witters

Members Absent: Joe McHugh, one vacancy

Others Present: Cathleen Gent (Town Planner/Staff to the DRB)

7:02 PM Call to order by the Chair.

Public Comment – None.

Mail - Gent reviewed the mail.

Meeting Minutes & Town Planner Report

Meeting Minutes: For September 5, 2012

No amendments were offered. Motion by Borie, seconded by Witters, to approve the minutes. Voting: in favor: 5; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions.

Meeting Minutes: For September 19, 2012

Due to a lack of a quorum of those present at the September 19th meeting, the Planning Commission did not review the minutes.

Meeting Minutes: For September 24, 2012

No amendments were offered. Motion by Renaud, seconded by Borie, to approve the minutes. Voting: in favor: 4 (Bressor, Borie, Renaud, Witters); 0 opposed; 1 abstention (Fausel).

Town Planner Report

Gent briefly discussed updates to the September 28th town planner report. Regarding the creamery parcel, Fausel said that his understanding is that a municipality may apply for brownfields grant funding only if the government owns the land.

Richmond Zoning & Subdivision Regulations Review: Public Outreach

Gent distributed a *Times Ink* article, a letter to the editor, and proposed fact sheets regarding the proposed Richmond Zoning and Subdivision Regulations. The Planning Commission reviewed the article and letter to the editor and discussed the flyer/fact sheet for the October issue of the *Times Ink*, future letters to the editor, and public events in the coming weeks to explain the bylaws. Gent reviewed statutory language from election law regarding “improper influence”. Bressor will prepare a letter to the editor and Gent will revise the flyer/fact sheet for distribution in the *Times Ink* and elsewhere.

Richmond Town Plan Update

The Planning Commission began its review of Section 5, Natural Resources and the report from Front Porch Community Planning & Design. The Commission briefly discussed the overall layout for each chapter (e.g., goals, objectives, policies, strategies) but did not make any final decision about the layout. In addition, the Commission discussed the General Goals (page 7) for the Town Plan and decided that each of those goals should be revised to cast them in the “active voice” similar to Goal #1. Gent will revise those goals accordingly. The Commission discussed the fact that there are not any goals in the Natural Resources section and that the general goals (page 7) focus on one topic area only, i.e., are not synergistic in terms of combining together the specific section goals. The Commission also discussed whether 26 objectives are too many in the Front Porch Community Planning & Design draft natural resources section. The commission decided that the goals provide the general vision or statement for each section (i.e., provide the seeds for the objectives in each section). The objectives will be evaluated as to whether they link adequately to the goals and each objective must support one or more goal. The Planning Commission will continue the discussion during its next meeting.

Adjournment

Borie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Renaud. So voted. The meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Cathleen Gent, Town Planner/Staff to the DRB