



**TOWN OF STOWE
PLANNING COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2024**

The Town of Stowe Planning Commission held a meeting on **Monday April 1, 2024**, starting at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Stowe Town Office with remote participation via Zoom. The meeting began at 5:30 pm. Members present included Mila Lonetto, Bob Davison, Heather Snyder, Jill Anne, Brian Hamor, and Neil Percy.

Staff Sarah McShane was present. Rebecca Stone (consultant) and Catherine Crawley were also present.

The meeting was called to order by Chair M.Lonetto at approximately 5:30 pm.

Adjustments to the Agenda & Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No public comments. Chair Lonetto asked the Commission to consider amending the agenda to add discussion of potentially creating a housing subcommittee of the Planning Commission. On a motion by M.Lonetto, seconded by B.Hamor, the motion carried.

Review Prior Meeting Minutes [03/18/2024]

B.Davison motioned to approve the meeting minutes from March 18th. J.Anne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Stowe Town Plan Update – Community Engagement

Staff McShane introduced consultant Rebecca Stone of Community Workshop LLC. The conversation began with introductions of each Commission member, their affiliations, residence/neighborhood, and their one wish for Stowe. Members shared their wishes for the community. Members spoke of the desire to maintain Stowe's historic, New England image and maintaining our sense of place. R.Stone presented a few ideas and tools the Commission may elect to use to help gather input and shape the next Town Plan. She described ways to engage the community, the importance of visioning, and identifying potential goals. She suggested the Commission consider a first round of engagement to include broad community questions, followed by specific questions targeted at specific community issues. B.Davison reiterated the importance for the Commission to keep focused and not get lost or scattered. R.Stone shared potential project names and project logos. Members liked the project name Stowe 2050 and Our Stowe 2050. R.Stone will continue to work on the project logo and refine the project names/tag lines. She described different forms of engagement, public events, graffiti walls, festivals/block parties, booths, anytime engagement, storytelling, workshops, contests, interviews, pop-ups, surveys, etc. Members discussed starting with a focused survey and ways to listen and hear community members. At the next meeting, members will discuss potential engagement questions and continue to review the existing plan elements.

Updates/Correspondence/Other Business

Agenda Adjustment- Housing Subcommittee

Members discussed possibly creating a housing subcommittee to work on additional zoning amendments to better support housing. Staff McShane suggested first creating a purpose statement, goals, assigned tasks, number of members, anticipated timeframe, etc. for the Commission to review and vote on. M.Lonetto asked that members send her outstanding zoning amendments they feel should be addressed in the near future. M.Lonetto will draft materials for the Commission's consideration. Staff noted that the subcommittee would need to meet the requirements of Open Meeting Law and would need to coordinate scheduling of meetings around the availability of the Memorial Room or other meeting spaces such as P & Z office table. Members will continue discussion during a future meeting.

Review Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Next PC Meeting Date- 4/15/2024. M.Lonetto is unable to attend. B.Hamor will Chair the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah McShane, Planning & Zoning Director