

Shaftsbury Planning Commission

April 26, 2023

Call to order

The meeting came to order at 6 p.m. Present were commissioners Naomi Miller (chair), Chris Williams, Nancy Burns, and Martha Cornwell. Also present was zoning administrator Shelly Stiles. Two citizens were present for a short while via Zoom.

Minutes

Ms. Miller moved to approve the April 26 minutes. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

Mr. Williams suggested and all agreed that a “public comments” item should be added to the agendas.

Bylaw modernization grant

Ms. Miller reported she spoke with Janet Hurley at BCRC and learning that, because the citizens adopted two relevant bylaw changes in March 2023, the PC doesn't have to move additional changes to a public hearing this year. (In order for the items to appear on the March 2024 ballot, the hearing would have to take place in September 2023.) However, if we want Ms. Hurley's input on our discussions, we do need to complete our work on the grant by the end of December 2023. If it should happen that a September 2023 public hearing schedule can be met the PC will proceed with such a hearing.

Enhanced Energy Plan (EEP)

Ms. Miller spoke with Ms. Hurley and learned that BCRC will be sending us their data analysis on May 30 and that a hearing will be held in June, possibly June 14 at Cole Hall at a regularly scheduled PC meeting. Ms. Stiles will send out the EEP schedule to all.

Meeting scheduling

Ms. Miller suggested that Mr. Williams and Mr. Foley act as a subcommittee to address changes to the bylaw, with final language to be agreed upon by the end of summer. She suggested she and Ms. Cornwell serve as a subcommittee to work on the enhanced energy plan, and that Ms. Burns and Ms. Stiles work on helping to orient Ms. Burns to planning commission processes over the summer. After discussion, it was agreed to meet as follows:

- May 10: full commission meeting on solar proposal
- May 31: full commission meeting on EEP data analysis, produce game plan for monthly full commission and subcommittee meetings
- June 14: public hearing on EEP
- June 28: full commission meeting to lay out how Mr. Williams and Mr. Foley will tackle bylaw modernization changes, discussion of EEP
- Tentative July 26: respond to work of Mr. Williams and Mr. Foley on bylaw modernization, move EEP process forward
- Tentative August 23: Commission meets as a body

Mr. Williams moved to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.