

Barre City Planning Commission

November 14, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Present:, Becky Wigg (Vice Chair), Joe Reil (Secretary),
Rosemary Averill, Raylene Meunier

Absent: David Sichel (Chair), Caitlin Corkins

Staff: Janet Shatney (Director of Planning, Permitting & Assessing)

Visitors: Reuben MacMartin and Niki Sabado from the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC)

1. Call to Order.

5:30pm.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda.

None.

3. Approval of Minutes.

a. October 10, 2024.

Edit to correct a spelling error (Chitten to Chittenden on first page) was suggested.

Ducey moves to approve with edit, Averill seconds, unanimous in favor.

4. Public comment (for something not on the agenda).

None.

5. Old Business.

a. Encore Renewable Energy Battery Storage Discussion and possible actions

There was some discussion and questions about whether we had submitted letters of support before and whether we should in this case. Consensus was to hold off until City Council has seen the presentation and weighed in and we have more members present.

- b. Downtown Planning Area Grant: outreach strategy and designated roles for the upcoming charette with TPUDC

Reuben MacMartin provided an update to previous discussion at the September meeting of the Planning Commission. The contract is out for consultant and there are no definite dates yet. He will be pulling parcel ownership data (from April 2023) for review. Potential sites for the public review meetings (Opening and Closing meetings) were discussed, including the Barre Auditorium, Old Labor Hall, Alumni Hall (second floor), or Downstreet Housings Kitchen Meeting Area. Shatney suggested Alumni Hall as the best option. A smaller site that would be needed for an Open Studio Workshop was also discussed, candidates include the Barre Social Club, Raylene's Studio, or The Elks Club.

Outreach (Social and traditional media), Facebook (Barre City Page or local Community Pages), Front Porch Forum, Newspaper Ads as well as possible stakeholders, local businesses and other organizations/boards (Capstone, Downstreet, Housing Taskforce) were also discussed.

6. New Business.

- a. Municipal Plan: Review Section 2 Transportation

Consensus to hold discussion on this until more members are present.

7. Confirm Date of Next Meeting.

- a. December 12, 2024.

8. Staff Updates.

None.

9. Round Table.

None.

10. Adjourn.

6:25pm, **Reil moves to adjourn, Ducey seconds, unanimous in favor.**