

Minutes
Planning Commission Meeting
Town of Coventry
Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 5:00 P.M.

Board Members Present

Daniel Rondeau- Chairman

Martha Sylvester-Vice Chairman

Phil Marquette

Joi Merritt

Stephanie Rondeau- administrative assistant

- 1. Dan called the meeting to order at 5:05p.m.**
- 2. Approve the minutes of September 2, 2020:**
 - Martha made the motion to approve the minutes of September 2, 2020 as written. Phil seconded the motion and the minutes were accepted and signed.
- 3. Allow for public comment:**
 - No public comment
- 4. New business:**
 - Phil announced his resignation from the Planning Commission.
- 5. Solar Energy Project:**
 - The commission discussed the possible size of the array and what would be needed to facilitate the town buildings as well as the church and possibly the fire district. As well as the use of any additional credits.
 - An idea for an Electronic Vehicle charge point that would benefit from the solar credits was introduced.
 - i. This may be a good way for the town to become more self sufficient and more green.

- ii. Would also give the town additional revenue as money from the landfill becomes less in the future.
- The next step for this project is to hear from David Barlow for more financial information to assure feasibility and support from the town.
- Discussion will continue at the next Planning Commission meeting.

6. Economic Development Plan

- The Possible sites for improvement within the town were discussed.
 - i. Lady bird Park
 - 1. Possible improvements could include; Installation of Benches, Picnic tables, trash and recycling receptacles, signage and swings.
 - ii. Village Common
 - 1. A grant for sidewalks has been submitted and may be an opportune time to investigate village center improvements.
 - iii. Ball field
 - iv. Kayak launch
 - 1. Signage that matched the town signs, trash and recycling receptacles.
 - v. Park and Ride
 - 1. Possible reshaping of the parking lot to better accommodate trucks as well as easier access to the roadway.
 - a. VTRANS and park and ride grant programs may be available.
 - b. Installation of lighting would make location safer.
 - c. A pavilion would be nice for people to take shelter if needed as well as provide another place to install solar panels if desired.
 - d. Installation of electric vehicle charge point.
 - vi. Church
 - 1. Possible uses for the space was discussed.
 - a. Including what the towns people would prefer as well as what would take little upgrade to achieve.
 - i. Ideas included but are not limited to hosting town/ school/ private events and craft/ art fairs, as well as a Community center with computers.
 - b. Terms and conditions of the sale will be researched to remain compliant with the sale.
 - c. Community outreach results will be submitted for review.
 - vii. Post Office

1. Possible relocation to the community center and longer attendant hours was proposed.

viii. Town Garage

1. Behind town garage may be a possible location for additional parking within walking distance of the rest of town.

ix. Coventry Falls area

1. Owned by Jim Cobb but could be a good place to add trash/ recycle receptacles and benches as well as signage if possible.

- Some additions that could be beneficial for the town include;
 - i. Installation of an information kiosk or pavilion.
 1. Possible locations could include the park and ride, or possibly the church.
 - ii. Adding suggested bike routes and walking paths may be a good way to draw in tourism to the town. Could also offer rentals of bikes and kayaks to benefit the town.
 - iii. A WI-FI hot spot was proposed
 1. Could be located at the park and ride, town garage, or church.
- Hazard and flood mitigation would be needed for Lady Bird Park as well as the bridge at RTE-14.
 - i. Phil will be looking at how this can be achieved
 1. May be necessary before an electric vehicle charge point can be installed.
- Village improvement plan
 - i. Would need a person to head the project as well as a committee to process applications and oversee that the town is within regulations.
- The availability and usage of a heated greenhouse located at the landfill was lightly discussed.
- This topic will be discussed further at the next planning Commission meeting.

7. Other Business:

- Martha mentioned that a good way to get the town information out may be to advertise on menu's at Martha's Diner but may be too costly for the town.
- A draft of the revised bylaws for the town of Derby was received for review. A digital copy will be emailed to each member as well as David Gallup (NVDA representative for the town) to be discussed further at the next meeting.

8. Motion to Adjourn:

- Dan made the motion to adjourn at 6:40pm. Motion was seconded by Phil and the meeting was adjourned.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be held on November 4, 2020 at 5:00p.m. at the Coventry Community Center with online options for the public to join.

Daniel Rondeau

Martha Sylvester

Mike Lucas

Phil Marquette

Joi Merritt