



Town of Plymouth

Planning Board Meeting
Plymouth Town Hall
Plymouth, NH 03264

March 19, 2015

FINAL – Approved April 2, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Ahern (Chair), John Kelly, Rebecca Hanson (ConCom Rep), Bill Bolton (Selectman's Rep.) Bob Dragon (Selectmen's Alternative Rep.), Steve Rhodes

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sharon Penney, Plymouth Town Planner

ABSENT/EXCUSED:

John Randlett (Selectmen's Rep. Alt.)
Steve Whitman (Alternate)

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Mike Ahern called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll call of members was completed.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

- Mr. John Kelly made a motion to accept the March 5th, 2015 minutes as written, seconded Mr. Bill Bolton. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Ms. Sharon Penney distributed the 2013 Population Estimates from the Office of Energy and Planning. Page two lists Plymouth populations over various time frames and speaks to 'group housing populations' which includes dormitories, nursing homes, prisons and other types of group housing subcategories within a total population number. The overall population of Plymouth, NH was 6,785 residents in 2013, which is down 3 percent since the previous collection of data. Roughly 2,000 students are in dormitory housing.
- Mr. Bolton inquired if students who live in single-family dwellings are considered part of the 'group housing population.'

- Ms. Penney stated that those students are not in the 'group housing' population and if they were in town during the census, then it is possible that they are included in the home owner's resident census answer.
- Mr. Bob Dragon inquired why the population drops in the 2013 census.
- Ms. Penney suggested that PSU lost some enrollment and some residents might have moved away. Specific references to the decrease were not outlined in that data sheet.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ms. Penney stated that the Planning Board, if so inclined tonight could come u with a slate of nominees for officer positions since the annual town meeting has passed. Does the Planning Board want to choose officials tonight, she asked.
- Mr. Ahern said they will wait until April.
- Ms. Penney distributed the Community Attitudes Survey from 2004 in preparation for the master plan new survey.
- Mr. John Kelly inquired if an outline of the tasks for the master plan is available.
- Ms. Penney said that it is available in the RFP from the North Country Council which she passed out two meetings ago and also later last year.
- Mr. Ahern stated that he believes that the student's participation in the Master Plan is important.
- Mr. Steven Rhodes inquired if Ms. Tara Bamford will examine what does not work in the town when creating the new Master Plan.
- Ms. Penney said that she, along with the Planning Board, will get a consensus of opinion on what was put forth in the Implementation Chapter of the old Master Plan. For instance, were the tasks and goals from 2008 still relevant or have they become obsolete or non-implementable and should they be discarded. The Planning Board needs help Ms. Bamford deliver information to the public. Burnt Rock Associates Consulting previously created the old Master Plan.
- Mr. Kelly is concerned that the new Master Plan ought to include the town's economic identity.
- Ms. Penney stated that there will be a new Economic Development chapter and that the Planning Board is only supposed to address the first volume of the Master Plan in this effort, not Volume II.
- Mr. Ahern stated that PSU is an important voice which will be involved in the survey. He thinks the Planning Board should create a subgroup to help create the questionnaire and then let the Planning Board edit it. He also thinks that the Planning Board should create a survey for residents and another for college students.
- Ms. Penney suggested that the survey include administrative faculty, professors and other support staff at the University.
- Mr. Kelly proposes that the Planning Board invite PSU President Sarah Jayne Steen to a Planning Board discussion of the Master Plan.

UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

- Mr. Ahern made a motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Mr. Bolton. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE:

The public is invited to attend all meetings of the Planning Board. During official public hearings, the public is welcome to speak. For other items the public may speak at the discretion of the chair/board. Files on the applications and items above are available for inspection in the Planning Department in Town Hall, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. These applications and items are subject to change prior to final action. Contact the Planning Department if you have questions or comments about these or any related matters or if you have a disability requiring special provisions for your participation at 536-1731 or you can e-mail the Town Planner, Sharon Penney at: spenney@plymouth-nh.org.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jaseya Girona