

Poultney Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, October 19, 2022 – 6:00 pm
Town Office
9 Main Street, Poultney, Vermont

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm. Members in attendance included Doug Langdon, Mary-Sue Reed, Mark Teetor, Neal Vreeland, and Jaime Lee. Others in attendance included Paul Donaldson, Zoning Administrator, Ed Bove, RRPC, and Nic Stark.

1) Adoption of the Agenda

Doug L. made a motion to approve the agenda. Mary-Sue R. seconded. No further discussion. Oral vote unanimous, motion carried.

2) Approval of Minutes: September 21 (Regular Meeting)

Mark T. made a motion to the minutes of September 21, 2022. Doug L. seconded. Oral Vote unanimous, motion carried.

3) Bylaw Modernization Project

The Commission continued discussions of bylaw modernization. A listing of uses & dimensional standards *per* district was reviewed and discussed, and members identified a need to clarify district purpose with a more descriptive narrative.

The Commission also discussed adopting new phrasing for “Permitted” to better differentiate by-right/exempt activity and activity that required a Zoning Permit. The Commission also reviewed more generalized use categories, but decided not to pursue this approach.

Finally, Ed Bove of the RRPC noted that each district description page should include language pointing applicants to relevant state permits that may be required.

4) Public Comments and Concerns

Nic S. discussed “ADU fever”, or how accessory dwelling units are being developed across the nation to help ease housing pressures. Commission members discussed the current restraints on accessory structures within Poultney’s Unified Bylaws, and will consider modifying such restraints over the course of the bylaw modernization process.

5) Old Business

n/a

6) New Business

Neal V. requested a copy of the beautified Town Plan. Doug L. will submit the Town Plan to the Vermont Planner's Association.

Following the Selectboard's lead, Planning Commission meetings will be accessible by Zoom by the next regular meeting.

7) Transact Any Other Lawful Business

Due to conflicts over the holiday season, the November and December regular meetings of the Planning Commission were proactively cancelled. The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 6pm at the Poultney Town Office.

8) Adjourn

Doug L. made a motion to adjourn at 7:18pm. Mark T. seconded. Oral vote unanimous, motion carried.

s/ Jaime Lee, Chair