

TOWN OF WESTFORD
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
Minutes for August 14, 2018 Meeting
Approved on August 20, 2018

Commission/Board Members Present: Koi Boynton, Wendy Doane, Gordon Gebauer, Seth Jensen and Mark Letorney.

Commission/Board Members Absent:

Also present: Melissa Manka (Planning Coordinator), Paul Costello, Marge Hamrell, John Doane, Greg Barrows, Julia Andrews and Jenna Koloski.

The meeting began at: 6:15 p.m.

Town Common Area Site Visit

The group toured and discussed the town common and community buildings.

Amendments to Agenda

No amendments offered.

Vermont Council on Rural Development Community Visit Program Discussion

Paul Costello and Jenna Koloski explained the program and process. Paul noted that VCRD is non-political and does not have an agenda, but rather VCRD is a facilitator in a community –driven process. He said the intent of the process is to engage the community, identify issues, prioritize projects solutions, develop resident task forces assisted by experts in a given field, and complete identified tasks/priorities. He said outcomes from other community visits were daycare centers, general stores and co-ops, community rec centers, communication or events committees, high speed internet services, etc. Jenna said the program was free but asked that the Town send a town-wide mailing about the community event and host a dinner which could be as simple as a spaghetti dinner or potluck. Paul said VCRD would be deciding which towns to work with in 2019 on Tuesday. He said requesting a community visit would involve the Selectboard sending a letter stating the Town understands what a community visit is and requests service. Paul and Jenna said they understood the timing issues with holding a Selectboard meeting before Tuesday, but said if a Selectboard member could send an email by Tuesday stating the Town’s intent to submit a formal letter in the near future, they would entertain the Town’s request for the 2019 cycle.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:19 p.m.

Submitted by,
Melissa Manka, Westford Planning Coordinator