

## Brookfield Planning Commission DRAFT Minutes

January 10th, 2023

7:00 PM

Town Office and Zoom

Members present: Gwynn Zakov (Chair), Martha Judy, Keven Ring, Will White, Christina Harlow, Patricia Kennedy, Timothy Gershon (joined at 7:30pm)

Public present: Susan Shea, Jon Binhammer

1. Chair Zakov called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
2. Chair Zakov announced that she received noticed today from the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development that Brookfield was awarded full funding of a Bylaw Modernization Grant, with a focus on updated the development bylaws as they relate to housing. Details on the next steps are not clear and an update will be provided at the February meeting. Brookfield will be working with the TRORC on the bylaw modernization process.
3. Will White & Christina Harlow moved to approve minutes from the December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting. The minutes passed unanimously.
4. Patricia Kennedy joins the commission for her first meeting. The Brookfield Selectboard voted on January 9<sup>th</sup> to appoint her to the vacant seat on the commission. The commission welcomed her to the commission.
5. The planning commission met with representatives Jon Binhammer and Susan Shea of the Brookfield Conservation Commission to discuss how the Planning Commission can update our bylaws to incorporate conservation initiatives. Recommendations to create a new village district in Brookfield Center, limit lengths of driveways, protect identified forest blocks and wildlife corridors with new and/or amended overlay districts, protection of town trails and broader regulation of wetlands in all districts were some of the measures suggested. Lengthy and robust discussion followed and both commissions plan to work together to see how some of all of these suggestions may be incorporated in the bylaws.
6. Chair Zakov postponed action on further review of the bylaws and the commission will discuss the meeting and future collaboration with the Conservation Commission and continue review of the bylaws at 2.1.C – Scenic Protection District – going as far as time allows.

7. Date of the next meeting set for Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:00 pm.
8. Chair Zakov adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Gwynn Zakov.