

MINUTES

Shrewsbury Planning Commission

April 16, 2018

Members present: Laura Black (chair); Mark Goodwin, Francis Wyatt, Melissa Reichert

Guest present: Jens Hawkins-Hilke (Vt Fish and Wildlife) and Brian Jelentsis

Secretary of tonight's meeting minutes – Laura Black

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The minutes of March 19 were not reviewed for approval; will be held for next meeting.

TONIGHT'S MEETING

Rounds were not taken this evening.

Presentation by and Discussion with Jens Hilke: *(my notes are not intended to be comprehensive of the presentation nor discussion)*

- Recognizing forest fragmentation, “what is a forest?”, 10 acre zoning is destructive.
- Forest may change, intent is to keep it resilient, connect with aquatic network – so ecologically functioning network.
- 2 tiered system
- Connect large blocks with habitat connectors and road wildlife crossings – so need to identify forest blocks and forest connectors. Riperian areas (stream sides) are very important
- In Biofinder – shows blocks (we don't have to use them, or all of them).
- VCD (Vermont Conservation Design)-data set
- Task Conservation Commission with – identifying blocks and connectors?
- Conservation Commission has been working with Monica (at VT F&W).
- Road Crossings – Shrewsbury doesn't have enough data for these to be accurate
- Want Town Plan to address roads and road crossings . . . to work on better identification of road crossings in future.
- Riperian areas – its already accepted that these can't be developed.
- Deer wintering areas are only that – they don't represent a complete habitat for deer or other.
- Blackbear data is too old (1989)
- Map needs to show wetlands, vernal pools
- Specific “model” language is in Act 171
- Other Towns have developed language – see Hinesburg, Warren (2 teired subdivision regs)

Jens completed his presentation and left at about 9:00pm.

Other:

1. Brian Jelentsis stated that he would like to join the Planning Commission (we are very happy to have him!).

ACTION ITEMS

1. Melissa asks us to look at Act 171 Guide. Pick out what we feel is important.
2. Mark will request the Selectboard appoint Brian to the Planning Commission.

3. See Action items from previous meeting minutes to carry over.

NEXT MEETING: Our next meeting is May 7, 2018.
(Laura will not be present)

ADJOURNMENT

Jolly moved to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted:

Laura Black

Date

Approved: _____
Laura Black, Chair

Date

Approved as amended: _____

Date