

Duxbury Planning Commission

Special Meeting Minutes March 19, 2015

Members present: Alan Quackenbush, Doug Weber, Brian T. Fitzgerald

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Brian Fitzgerald.

Agenda Changes: none

Minutes: On motion by Alan/Doug, the minutes of the January 22, 2015 meeting were approved as written.

Election of Chair: On motion by Doug/Alan, Brian was elected to chair for the year. Alan agreed to serve as vice-chair.

Regular Meetings: There was consensus that regular meetings of the planning commission will continue to be held on the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The location will be the town garage meeting room.

Dowsville Headwaters Property: Discussion centered around the strong interest in expanding recreational use of the property that was expressed at a recreational interests meeting held by the Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation on February 17. Doug and Alan noted that the original purposes of the acquisition were conservation and protection of water quality, and those purposes should be paramount. Brian noted that a large increase in summer recreation at Beaver Meadow could have significant impacts on this important wetland resource, identified as such in the Duxbury Town Plan. Brian will contact Kate Wanner at the Trust for Public Land to suggest a meeting with FP&R to raise issues important to the town, including habitat and water quality protection, access and parking.

Central Vermont Regional Plan: The draft future land use map recently distributed by the CVRPC was discussed. For the most part, the land use categories on the map mirror the zoning districts defined in the Duxbury Town Plan. There are some areas where the boundary of the State Farm District on the town zoning map and the Town Center area on the RPC map do not match. The RPC is taking comments on the draft map, and Brian will send a note with recommended changes so the RPC map is consistent with Duxbury's zoning.

U.S. 2/Vermont 100 Traffic Light: A traffic signal was recently installed by VTrans at this intersection to control traffic during highway construction projects in Waterbury. While the light is supposed to be temporary, the planning commission is concerned that it could become permanent. While an improvement over the one-way stop on Vermont 100 northbound, it was neither the short-term nor long-term solution identified in the 2012 traffic study. That study called for a three-way stop as an interim measure until a roundabout could be constructed. Doug is following up with VTrans.

Town Gravel Pit: Developing a recommendation for future use of the property will be a planning commission responsibility once the site is reclaimed. Doug will follow-up with Mo Lavanway regarding the status of the reclamation plan. Alan noted that the property will have to be rezoned for a new use once it is no longer used as a source of gravel.

Next Meeting: Due to lack of a quorum on the April regular meeting date, the April 9, 2015 meeting is cancelled. A special meeting will be noticed for April 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the town garage meeting room.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Minutes by B.T. Fitzgerald