Town of Warren Planning Commission Minutes of Meeting Monday September 25, 2017

Members Present: Randy Graves, Jim Sanford, Mike Bridgewater, Mike Ketchel and Dan Raddock.

Others Present: Bob Ackland, Miron Malboeuf and Ruth Robbins.

Agenda: Call the meeting to order, 7:30 pm.

- 1. Opportunity for Public Comment
- 2. Town Plan Update, Place Sense, Brandy Saxton a.Warren Community Survey

b.Revised chapter text

- 3. Review & sign minutes September 11, 2017
- 4. Other & New business:

Mr. Ketchel called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

With no public comment the Commission went straight to their discussion with Ms. Saxton regarding the update of the Town Plan.

PC members began by sharing their suggestions such as the edits under the geology section could go further as far as eliminating information. The question was asked about the Town history – where does it go if we take out the majority of it and the fear of it being lost was also expressed. Ms. Saxton suggested that they could keep the historical pieces in an appendix of the Town Plan. She then went on to share more specifically her vision of how the town plan would look and had a projector to show her samples. Though this would not preclude card paper copies, she told the PC that she was looking to format the revision in a way that most people would use: which is on a computer. This means she has laid it out in landscape mode versus the standard profile to align better with most computer screens. Being online in this format would be user friendly, making it much improved from its current iteration. Ms. Saxton also pointed out that though it may seem like a lot of text is being "removed" she assured the members that the information will either turn up in a better place or be contained in a form of info graphics or side bar. For example, the community profile which is primarily demographics, works nicely in an info graphic format. This approach makes the document more user friendly and easier to read. Mr. Sanford stated that his opinion was that the approach Ms. Saxton was taking was direct and concise, a better tool and easier to understand. Other members had expressed their concern over the document being too clinical and were concerned about certain things inadvertently being left out. Ms. Saxton said she would get the Commission an electronic draft [by 10/10] they could then add their suggestions to which should help expedite the process of gaining specific input from the PC members. She also said she had gotten behind but that she would aim to have the survey written responses finished for the PC by the 10th as well.

Mr. Ackland, a member of the Select Board [SB] was in attendance and spoke to Ms. Saxton's question as to what the Board wanted to discuss at the joint meeting scheduled for the 24th of October. Mr. Ackland stated that the SB only sees the Town Plan when it comes up for renewal having been updated or amended. Otherwise, they never have any "contact" with it. He continued to say that the SB needs to be more in touch with the plan as to certain things that need to be implemented going forward. He also noted that the Community Survey had some results that directly affect how the Town is performing which is of great interest to the Board. The topic of incorporating Capital Planning aspects into the Town Plan was also briefly

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discussed. It was mentioned that though the response to the survey was good, it still was a small number of residents and not to be too quick to give it too much weight. Mr. Ackland also noted that he has found people are quick to say what we "don't want to be" when talking about the town, but don't say "this is what we should be". The PC then briefly went over the schedule with Ms. Saxton as to when certain things had to be done. They discussed aiming for January to do a workshop to get townspeople involved in looking at the draft and getting some input on certain topics.

The minutes of September 11th were reviewed and signed. Mr. Bridgewater spoke about the Ridge to Rivers desire to have additional representation from the town, maybe someone from the road crew of someone with an interest in the topic of stormwater treatment and its effects. There will be a community forum titled "Climate of Change" on Wednesday October 11th 5:30 to 7:30 at the Lareau Farm Pavilion that will discuss how weather and its changes has and can affect the Mad River Valley. Meteorologist Roger Hill will be the keynote speaker. Mr. Sanford informed the Commission that the Annual Three Town Leadership Meeting was scheduled for November 16th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Ruth V. Robbins DRB/PC Assistant

Planning Commission 0/17 date Jim Sanford date Randy Graves Dan Raddock date **Mike Bridgewater** date 10/10/17 TOWN OF WARREN, VT Mike Ketchel date Received for Record [0] 11 2017 at 8:45 o'clock A M and Received in Page 645-646

VT Propery Transfer Tax Return #

TOWN CLERK