

Unapproved minutes
July 2021 Peacham Planning Commission Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Jock Gill at approximately 7:04 PM on July 13.

Jock Gill, Bruce MacLean and Adam Dobson were present.

There were no additions to the agenda. Bruce made a motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting; Jock seconded; the members voted to approve. There were no members of the public present. The members discussed the changing face of agriculture in Peacham. Jock reported on a meeting he held with Anson Tebbetts, the Vermont Secretary of Agriculture, Food & Markets along with several local farmers to discuss potential ideas for supporting local farms in Peacham, with the idea of improving cooperation among local farmers. Another meeting is tentatively planned for September 3. The members discussed at length the preservation of open space in the village of Peacham, in particular the field owned by Matt Kempton below Bruce's property and next to the Village Farm. The members discussed possible sources of funding for purchasing the land, establishing a land trust or a conservation fund. The members agreed that the August meeting should be dedicated to discussing possibilities. Adam reported on his conversations with Alison Low and her recommendation that changes to zoning be introduced to the public and the relevant decision makers in Peacham conceptually and with reasoning behind the proposed changes in advance of presenting a revised set of regulations in order to educate the public on the benefits of proposed changes. The members discussed applying for a community planning grant in order to obtain the assistance of the NVDA. Adam will learn more about the grants and the application process. The members discussed construction / building permits, certificates of occupancy and minimum REBS standards. The members discussed the possibility of retaining a remote component to the meetings in order to facilitate participation by the members and the public.

There was no old business and no new business. There was no correspondence. Adjournment was approximately at 8:18 PM.