

Montgomery Planning Commission Minutes
The Public Safety Bldg.
January 15, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Present: Alissa Hardy, Roberta Baker, Barry Kade, Joe Sherman, Kenny Miller and Ellen Fox, Zoning Administrator. Public: Deanna Robitaille

Alissa called the meeting to order at 7:03.

Moved by Alissa Hardy and seconded by Kenny Miller to approve the minutes of December 11, 2018. Motion was approved by unanimous vote. One abstention.

Agricultural Permit Fees: Ellen Fox reported on information that she received from other towns such as Enosburg, Fairfield Troy, Fairfax, Jay, (hasn't heard from Westfield yet) about agricultural permits and fees. Each town has a different criteria on how they deal with these permits. They all get some written information from applicants. In Enosburg, if there is a doubt on whether something is agricultural, then they call the Agency of Agricultural to do a determination. If it is obviously a farm, then it is exempt. Vermont City of Leagues and Towns can provide information, and Ellen will look into this further. She will also look into the fee collection, and how it works for each town.

Trails Update: Joe reported that Tim Tiernay is head of the Kingdom Trails - He has a lot of information on the legality of trails and the procedural entities within a town. He has gone through this before and would be a great resource. This would be trails beyond what the Montgomery Thrives committee is working on which is the trail from the village to the center. Darren Drevik is the chair of that committee. The question was asked if someone from the recreation committee was part of that committee? Joe said he did not have the time to head this committee, but he feels very strongly that we should have a separate Trails Committee where a member from the PC could be a member. There are a number of people who are interested in seeing this happen, whether walking, biking, or motorized trails for ATV/UTV's or snowmobiles. At this time the PC is only going to use Tim Tiernay as a resource to ask some questions. We will invite Recreation Center, Darren from Montgomery Thrives, Wild & Scenic Committee, Conservation Committee, Don Ellis, Grateful Treads (Mtn. Bike Club - gratefultreads@gmail.com) to ask questions. Joe will check with Tim Tiernay and see if he is available for our February meeting then we will send notices out to all town committees and groups.

Montgomery Thrives: Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) has published the report and action plan of the community visit for Montgomery Thrives ([See attached link.](#)). All committees have now held their second meetings.

Taste of Montgomery: Barry reported that the Taste of Montgomery hasn't happened for over 10 years, and it was done by small group people who did everything and got burned out. This is why it stopped. The PC further discussed the idea of some kind of

town wide event incorporating many ideas but again there needs a driving force to get this going.

Other Business:

Barry will touch base with the selectboard on the Zoning Administrator's review.

Agendas will be sent out a week before the meeting. Motion was made by Barry Kade and seconded by Kenny Miller to have the agenda sent out a week early so we can post in time for the meeting. Unanimous Vote.

Items for future agenda:

- Tim Tierney, Kingdom Trails

Moved by AH and seconded by BK to adjourn the meeting at 8:30. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roberta Baker
Secretary, Montgomery Planning Commission