

Montgomery Planning Commission Minutes
Montgomery Rec Center
Tuesday, July 12, 2022 6:00pm

Present: Peter Locher, Kenny Miller, Barry Kade, Alissa Hardy, and Joe Sherman

Kenny called the meeting to order at 6:07pm.

Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda -

Addition - Secretarial Posting

Approval, May 10, 2022 Minutes - Tabled until next meeting

Bylaw Modernization Grant Update -

Greta attended the meeting in May and brought handouts that Alissa distributed to the board since no one was present at the same location during the last meeting. Handouts showed how to increase easy access to housing without drastically changing the appearance of mainstreet. Greta will contact the board with the next steps.

Proposed Short Term Rental Ordinance Draft, Review and Discussion of Next Steps -

The board still hasn't received feedback from the Select Board on their draft of the Short Term Rental Ordinance. Alissa spoke to a Select Board member that said they would add it to their agenda soon. Peter will send a follow up email to Charlie requesting time on the agenda and feedback. Barry brought the town of Killington Zoning Bylaws that pertain to short term rentals to the meeting. Killington addresses short term rentals through Zoning Bylaws instead of an ordinance. Regional planning recommends an ordinance, but the board can use some of the language from the Killington Bylaws in their own ordinance if needed. Discussion followed.

Everyone decided to wait to revise the STR ordinance draft until they received feedback from the Select Board.

Secretarial Posting -

In April, the board started language for a secretarial posting. This is the draft pulled from April's minutes:

"Montgomery Planning Commission, Secretary Position, duties will include attending monthly meetings with additional time to prepare minutes, agenda and posting the agenda to three locations (the two post offices and town clerk's office) for up to four hours a month at \$15 per hour. Meetings are the second Tuesday of every month starting at 6:00 p.m. Please contact any or all MPC members."

Kenny wanted the posting to sound more exciting and inviting. Everyone decided they would work on the draft over email between now and the next meeting.

Other Business -

Joe was concerned about the enforcement of the ordinance. Peter mentioned this concern had already been addressed in a previous meeting and that the registration fee would go towards an enforcement officer. Alissa mentioned they should speak to Ellen Fox about her thoughts on an enforcement officer's approach to their duties. Barry mentioned the possibility of hiring an outside firm, but there was discussion about the benefits of employing someone local.

Joe also brought up his desire for a hiking and biking path from the center to the village. It was decided that, at this time, this is not a priority for the Planning Commission, but could be something to consider in the future. It was suggested that Joe could reach out to the local bike club. Montgomery Thrives may be addressing this issue with the streetscape project once they conclude their work on the sewer project.

Public Comment -

None

Items for Future Agenda -

- Secretarial Update
- STR Ordinance

Meeting adjourned at 7:08pm, All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail Dixson-Boles, Acting Secretary