

**Town of Bennington  
Planning Commission**

**Monday, February 15, 2016**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Town of Bennington Fire Facility  
126 River Street  
Bennington, Vermont 05201**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Charles Copp, Barry Horst, Michael McDonough

**Also Present:** Dan Monks, Ric Carroll, Laura Block, Robert Block

**Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.**

**Public Hearing – Amendment to Town Plan – Siting of Solar Arrays:** The Planning Commission Chair commenced the public hearing and explained the purpose of the amendment to the Town Plan and the adoption process. The Planning Director described the contents of the amendment. Ric Carroll expressed support for the amendment. The Planning Commission asked the Planning Director to explain several specific provisions of the amendment and expressed support for the amendment. Laura Block asked what the next steps were and the Planning Director described the hearing process. The Planning Commission will submit the proposed Town Plan amendment to the Select Board for review. The Select Board will hold at least two public hearings regarding the Town Plan amendment after it is submitted by the Planning Commission. After the required hearings, the Select may adopt the amendment. The Chair closed the hearing.

Michael McDonough moved to submit the proposed Town Plan amendment to the Select Board. Charles Copp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Review of Plan for Rt. 7 South Solar Array (across from Sherriff's Office):** The Planning Commission reviewed a preliminary site plan for a proposed solar array across the street from the Sheriff's Office on Route 7 South. A more detailed plan will be submitted for review by the Planning Commission on March 7<sup>th</sup>. The Planning Commission asked that the developer provide a specification for the agricultural fencing proposed for the site, and elevations of the project as viewed from the road. Although no specific recommendation was made, the Planning Commission commented that the screening may be more effective if it were placed adjacent to Route 7.

**The meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted

Daniel W. Monks  
Planning Director