

**Town of Bennington
Planning Commission**

Monday, July 17, 2017

5:30 p.m.

Town of Bennington Conference Room

205 South Street

Bennington, Vermont 05201

MINUTES

Members Present: Michael McDonough, Ken Swierad, Charles Copp, Robert Ebert

Also Present: Dan Monks, Donald Campbell, Allison Strohl

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Hazard Mitigation Plan – BCRC Presentation-Public Comment: Allison Strohl from BCRC gave a brief presentation on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. She explained that the plan, if adopted, will make the Town eligible for increased disaster relief funds. The Plan assess hazards and sets forth mitigation measures. Allison addressed questions regarding the mitigation measures and the expectations of FEMA. The Planning Commission recommended that the Select Board submit the plan to FEMA for review. The Select Board will review the plan at an upcoming meeting. After the plan is reviewed and approved by FEMA, it will be considered for adoption by the Select Board.

Update on Tax Increment Financing District Application: Dan Monks and Michael McDonough updated the Planning Commission on the Town's efforts to complete an application to the Vermont Economic Progress Council (VEPC) for a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District. A Public Meeting regarding the TIF District application has been tentatively scheduled for August 7th. After being revised to address public comments, the TIF district application will be reviewed by the Select Board and considered for adoption. If adopted by the Select Board, it will be submitted to VEPC.

Other Business: The Planning Commission briefly discussed new medical marijuana legislation regulating medical marijuana dispensaries and the role of local ordinances and bylaws in the siting of dispensaries. The topic will be placed on a future agenda.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Daniel W. Monks
Planning Director