

**Town of Bennington
Planning Commission**

Monday, June 5, 2017

5:00 p.m.

Town of Bennington Conference Room

205 South Street

Bennington, Vermont 05201

MINUTES

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

Also Present: Dan Monks, Leslie Addison, Heidi French, Amy Fella, Lorna Mattern, Paul DiIunno,
Allah Rakha Sheikh, Shawn Thibodaux

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Discussion with United Counseling Service: Lorna Mattern, Executive Director of UCS, gave a brief overview of UCS. She indicated that UCS employs over 300 people and provides services to over 3000 people in Bennington County. UCS has 17 buildings, including 4 group homes. Lorna outlined the numerous services that UCS offers. Her team indicated that they need additional space and may be looking for a building(s) to expand in to. Lorna also discussed the multiple funding sources for the work that they do.

The UCS team indicated that housing, wages and school reputation are issues that impact their recruitment of employees.

The need for additional services to address opiate addiction was also discussed.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Daniel W. Monks
Planning Director