

Town of Danby
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

August 1, 2024

Town Office, Danby, VT 6:00pm

<https://www.danbyvt.org/government-information>

Attendees: Shelley Taylor, Dave Powers, Hilda Haines, & Greg Heaton

Public – Brad Bender, Tracy Porter

- Meeting called to order at 6:03pm by Shelley Taylor
- Approve Previous Minutes
 - Motion by Greg Heaton, Seconded by Dave Powers
 - Motion passes unanimously
- Public Comment
 - Brad would like to have something regarding an ATV ordinance in the updated Town Plan.
- Town Plan Discussion
 - Shelley said we have 4 years to adopt the new Town Plan. She said we do not have to keep applying for the Village designation every 5 years, it does not expire. The planning commission team members should be reviewing the Town Plan and looking for any broad changes needed. We need a new designation of what it is considered farmland. A better definition to include more than just dairy farms and agriculture, like including goat farming, cannabis growing, etc. Maybe this also includes solar and wind farms too. Shelly thinks we should start with the land use first, look around the town to see what people are actually doing with the land. Types of number and types of farms, churches, businesses, hobbies, etc. What is the demographic of Danby? This can help with putting together the description of Danby.
 - Walker from Smokey House reached out to see if we have ideas for collaboration with the town. He would like to have meet with the townspeople to discuss possible ideas for recreation, etc. We thought meeting at Smokey House would be best. Shelly suggested a link to a survey on the Danby Town website, or having the surveys available at the town office or at Smokey House. Possible recreation ideas are hiking, mountain biking, cross country skiing, horseback riding, and ATV trails. Brad said he talked to Walker about the potential to have some ATV trails, possible collaboration with VASA.
 - Greg asked if we should set regularly scheduled meetings to discuss the Town Plan, Shelly suggested every other month.
 - Hilary Solomon would like to attend a future meeting to provide some updates.
 - Drea and Michelle were not able to attend the May RRPC meeting. Shelly suggested contacting the planning commission members if neither can attend future meetings.
 - Shelly will reach out to Logan to see if he can print out the town maps, Dave said he can pick up in Rutland if needed.
 - Next meeting is scheduled for 10/3/2024
- Motion to adjourn 6:34 PM by Dave Powers, Seconded by Greg Heaton
 - Motion passes unanimously
 - meeting Adjourned 6:34 PM