

Burke Planning Commission 10.16.18

Present: James Bentley, Sean Montague, Abigail Montgomery, Valerie Desmarais

Meeting was called to order at 6:37

Minutes from 9.18.18 meeting were reviewed and approved.

The PC commenced to discuss the draft energy plan designations, language and descriptions.

***Potential Restraints** include: agricultural lands, conservation easements, hydric soils

(Question for Allison: are these mapped?)

***Historical Working Lands** include: agricultural, equestrian use, barns.

(Question: how can we identify and include sizeable and tenured sugar bushes?)

* The town already has a designation re: **Scenic Conservation Overlay**: Over 1500' elevation per zoning by-law. Areas meeting this description are not eligible for development.

* Historical Sites: Abigail will contact TC office regarding existing "historical sites". Current designations include The Toll House and Toll Road at Burke Mountain.

(Question: are cemeteries a historical site?)

***Preferred Sites** do not interfere with views from scenic overlays or views to scenic overlays.

The PC acknowledges that there is a subjective component to the descriptive process.

Ultimately the energy planning(draft) goal is to avoid large scale energy generating development within and adjacent to areas other than "preferred sites".

James will follow up with Allison Lowe / NVDA re: Benson Town Plan re: setbacks.

Abigail re-visited the 1% taxation plan being implemented in Woodstock, Middlebury, St. Albans and S. Burlington. Information on this concept is at the links below:

<https://tax.vermont.gov/business-and-corp/sales-and-use-tax/local-option-tax>

<https://tax.vermont.gov/business-and-corp/sales-and-use-tax/local-option-tax/municipalities>

There are many different revenue streams that can be considered:

* Rooms and Meals

*General sales

*Alcohol sales

Sean and James support this idea. Abigail will contact the select-board to advance the concept.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Desmarais