

Burke Planning Commission

9.18.18

Present: James Bentley, Valerie Desmarais, Sean Montague.

Guest: Alison Low, NVDA.

James called the meeting to order at 6:45.

Minutes from 07.17 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Alison distributed the "Burke Energy Profile" document for review. (link to PDF)

[http://www.nvda.net/files/Burke%20Energy%20Profile\(2\).pdf](http://www.nvda.net/files/Burke%20Energy%20Profile(2).pdf)

This information is a starting point for assessing strategies to meet the "Enhanced Energy Plan" of 90% renewables by 2050. The calculations include recommendations for reduced consumption to reach the enhanced energy plan goals.

James proposed that the enhanced data be incorporated into the Burke Energy Plan draft, and all seconded that motion.

Alison then reviewed maps of Burke relative to renewable energy development. These maps are at the Town Clerks office. She explained the designations as they apply to solar and wind development. "Known constraints" are floodways and floodplains, wildlife habitat areas and class 1 & 2 wetlands. "Potential restraints" include slopes, conservation easements, agricultural lands and hydric soils.

The planning commission is also able to identify constraints by deciding what is inappropriate for Burke. "Historical working lands" and other site specific areas/corridors, scenic conservation overlays and the accessibility to phase power can be taken into consideration; once those areas are identified, we still need to have ample room for development to meet the regional planning goals.

Alison will forward other town plans to the planning commission for review of the language and site specifics that will help us identify areas that could be considered as "potentially restrained".

James proposed that the planning commission discuss and describe the potential constraints, and then invite Alison back to help us with the language/terminology specific to Burke.

James reported on the **gravel biking grant** proposal. He stressed the importance of minimizing user conflict, especially equestrian. The planning grant provides an opportunity to define user conflict issues and to provide education to decrease disturbances between different user groups.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Submitted by Valerie Desmarais