

## Shaftsbury Planning Commission (PC) Meeting

In person at Cole Hall and remotely via Zoom

March 13, 2024

1) Call to order

The meeting came to order at 6:05 p.m. Present were Nancy Burns, Mike Foley, Emily Cowperthwaite, and new Commissioner Mike Albus. All welcomed Mr. Albus to the Commission.

2) Outstanding minutes

Mr. Foley moved to approve the February 28, 2024 minutes. Ms. Cowperthwaite seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

3) Public comments

There were none.

4) PC reorganization, appointment of new officers

Ms. Burns noted that Zoe Contros Kears had expressed an interest in serving on the Planning Commission. Commissioners reviewed her resume. It was noted that she already serves on the Development Review Board. Mr. Foley moved that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation to the Select Board to appoint Ms. Contros Kears to the Commission. Ms. Burns seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

Ms. Burns thanked Chris Williams and Naomi Miller, retiring Commissioners, for their service and for their help in introducing her to Planning Commission matters.

Mr. Albus moved to nominate Ms. Burns to be Commission chairperson. Mr. Foley seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-1, with Ms. Burns abstaining.

Ms. Burns nominated Mr. Foley for vice-chairperson. Ms. Cowperthwaite seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-1, with Mr. Foley abstaining.

5) Subdivision regulation revisions, HOME Act revisions

The group discussed how to proceed on both matters. Ms. Stiles will contact Arlington and Wilmington, which, word has it, have begun incorporating HOME Act requirements in their bylaws. Ms. Stiles will annotate a table on the HOME Act produced by BCRC, noting what applies or doesn't apply to Shaftsbury.

It was agreed that the Commissioners will review those sections of the bylaw incorporating "procedures and requirements for the design, submission, and processing of plats..." (from 24 VSA Chapter 117 section 4418(1)(a)). The PC will discuss those sections at the March 27 meeting if time allows.

6) Other business

Mr. Albus said he would recommend to the Select Board that a "navigator" be appointed to help residents like him and his neighbors address the next solar development proposal.

Mr. Foley moved to adjourn at about 7:15 p.m. Ms. Cowperthwaite seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.