

TOWN of PATTEN
P.O. Box 260
Patten, Maine 04765

Planning Board
at the Lumbermen's Museum

Minutes: April 18, 2024

1. Call to Order: 4:30 PM
2. Attendance: Ron Blum, Joel Fitzpatrick, Kent Smallwood, Kristen Wittine
Guests: Janice Dancer, Jay Kamm
3. Review of Agenda – added review of letter in support of Rural Infrastructure Road Project
4. Review of minutes of March 21 meeting – motion, Kristen, second Joel; approved without correction.
5. Report of Board of Selectmen April 2 meeting
 - a. Presented Tiny Home and Holding Tank ordinances
 - b. Discussion of Comp. Plan subcommittee – to include Janice Dancer, Town Manager, and Rae Bates, with rest of members selected by Planning Board for a total of 10.
6. Old Business – Approach to updating the Comprehensive Plan
Jay Kamm of No. ME Development Corp:
Freewheeling discussion with Q & A included the following issues:
 - Our current Plan sets us in good stead for revision, timing is fine
 - First identify goals, then policies and strategies and work backwards
 - Note changes in State regs, e.g. housing (e.g LD 2003), climate
 - No changes in Growth Management issues
 - Anticipate Data Packet from Dept of AG by Fall (already requested) – Jay can supply some data sooner
 - Major focus (esp. granters and govt.) is Climate change effects
 - Next is Capital Improvement
 - Plan is ours, should reflect public opinion, encourages public meetings to elicit consensus, e.g. roads, policing, recreation, Natl Monument
 - Encourage regional coordination, e.g. like school district

- Plan is not a legal document, except Land Use section. Latter must be consistent with “Growth Management Act.” currently undergoing revision by legislature. Behooves us to complete before revision enacted.
- NMDC can be engaged to write some sections, e.g. Demographics and Transportation Sections
- Mandatory review of Plan by Dept of AG, reply with suggestions within 45 days of submission
- Plan can just reference (or link to) other plans of the town, not needed to reiterate them, e.g. Hazard Mitigation
- He will provide a menu of NMDC services we can purchase, est. \$10-15,000
- He will provide some model wording, i.e. Fiscal Capacity section
- He advised it would be prudent to include EV charging capacity in Plan

7. Other Business:

a. Subcommittee for Comprehensive Plan – identified members to date:

(1)Town Manager, (2)Janice Dancer, (3)Rae Bates

(4)Craig Greenier, (5)Kristen Wittine

(6)Dewey Loft, (7)Nate Richardson, (8)Brittany Arbo

Janice advised that 8 members was adequate rather than 10 previously noted.

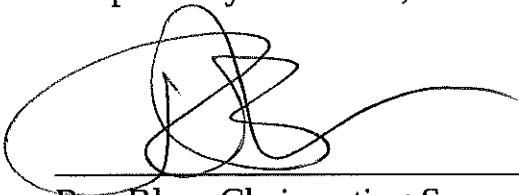
List will be submitted to Board of Selectmen for approval

b. Letter in support of Rural Infrastructure Road Project application to Senators Collins and King, drafted by Janice for the Town, was reviewed, edited and all voted to approve signing and submitting revised version.

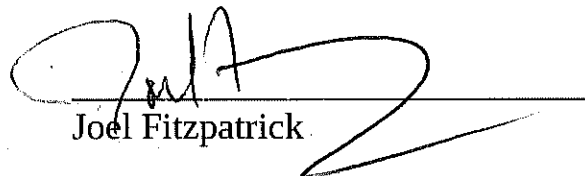
7. Next Regular meeting: May 16, 2024, at Lumbermen’s Museum, 4:30 PM

8. Adjourn 5:58 PM

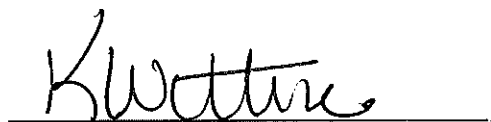
Respectfully submitted,



Ron Blum Chair, acting Sec.



Joel Fitzpatrick



Kristen Wittine