

Glover Planning Commission Meeting June 20, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. It was held in the Town Hall as well as by zoom.

Randy Williams, Mariel Hess, Ann Creaven, Steve Lowe, Nella Cargioli Coe, James Coe and Liz Nelson attended.

Randy made a motion, Steve seconded, to approve last month's minutes. So approved.

The Green update: Sylvia Cannizarro attended the Selectboard meeting and they answered all her questions. She agreed that the town was not going to alter any of her lines. She agreed to sign the document with the Selectboard. Now the Selectboard will send the document to Sara Davies Coe who will send the papers to the court for approval.

Karen Geraghty of REDI outlined a process for us to proceed. She suggested that coordinate all of our projects and requests under a program called "Better Connections" with a deadline of February 17, 2024. It will give us more impact and requires a 20% match.

Ann has been investigating the crosswalk and RT 16 issue. She called Highway Safety and Design at VTrans. Stephanie Lanou, the NE VT traffic investigator, will visit the site two or three times when it is busy. She said there needs to be two sidewalks for a crosswalk, but you can put up signs for an unmarked crossing. She will get back to us. (Fairlee was just awarded a \$100,000 grant for a similar project. They went through the VT Agency of Commerce and Development.)

Under the "Better Connections" umbrella, VTrans would be included. With ARPA we have until 2026 to spend the money. Randy suggests that we follow Karen's directions for continuing this project. He feels it will shepherd us through VTrans, DEC, VDH and ACCD agencies that will be involved. James concurred that this approach made sense.

Ann also contacted Northwoods, Maria and Megan about the River edge plan. Megan can't do it this summer but she will send a contract and scope of work statement. Perhaps this would not be included in the REDI grant/Better Connections project. Steve stated, "She says we can look for other grants on parallel lines." Randy said, "She is making the point that we have various elements to our plan there are different avenues to approach for funding and that "Better Connections" is inclusive and will help us plow through." We have eight months before the final proposal needs to be submitted.

Mariel asked how do Nella and James come into play? James replied they have several pending proposals on our project, and the "Better Connections" idea doesn't preclude this process. Randy requested we form a sub-committee to oversee the planning process and manage the subcontractors. James Coe, Nella Cargioli Coe and Steve Lowe volunteered.

Mariel commented that Karen said the town having ownership of the green is paramount to the development of these plans.

There are two picnic tables that have been made; one at the green and one at the Town Office. We will give an appreciation of these tables to Rural Arts. Randy will ask Sara Davies Coe to expedite the process now that the final objection has been resolved.

James asked if we should sort out the issue of the Fire shed/garage issue also at this time? Randy said the Fire Chief had retired and that Joe Brightmeir is the new chief. He has not been able to reach him as

yet about helping to decide what to do with the junk in and around the small building and about helping with the clean up.

We think that Teresa Perron, the Town Manager, should be involved in these conversations. Randy and Steve stated that as the job description isn't too specific as yet, perhaps we can help define it. Mariel concurred.

Nella stated that "Better Connections" might fund more than one project if it is part of a comprehensive plan. We can use up to \$7500. of Karen Geraghty 's time from the REDI grant. However, Randy says there has been very little information from the REDI grant people so far.

Nella and James have a proposal from Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Owner & Operator, Ecotone Landscapes & Tree Care and T. Barnabas Kane, Owner & Licensed Landscape Architect, New West Workshop for the landscape design and planning. James said that Ceiligh had many good ideas for the landscape, including using native species, pollinator friendly species, native meadow grasses and creating a low maintenance area. Perhaps we could use foraging plants like blueberries to engage people. Accessible walkways and mixed use spaces for old and young, and public restrooms also should be considered.

James said they have requests out to civil engineers and are waiting for those proposals.

Randy talked with Angela Daniels who works for Vermont Electric Coop about the electric lines across the green, about the idea of burying them or rerouting them. She said the pole by Sylvia's driveway is a major junction for all of Still Hill. She suggested we get a licensed electrician's estimate for what we would like done. James and Nella said they could get those numbers. Randy mentioned the EV charging stations as part of the "electrical" plan. Along with the EV stations, Wi-Fi at the green would be useful at the Farmer's Market, for events at the Green and helpful to people charging up their cars.

Steve suggested that this summer at the Farmer's Market we experiment with different marked areas for parking with orange cones and tapes to see what works the best.

James asked if there is a role for the Planning Commission to address the tire dump on RT 16. Randy said that the owner was at a Selectboard meeting but it wasn't resolved. Randy will follow up on this issue with the Selectboard.

Congratulations to the Glover Ambulance for being awarded "Ambulance Service of the Year " by the VT Ambulance agency. It was Randy's nomination!

Ann moved to adjourn, Steve seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Nelson, Secretary