**VILLAGE OF OLD BENNINGTON**

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

MINUTES

FOR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

**Members present:**

Nancy Coseo – Chair, Galen Jones - Vice Chair, Carl Feltz, Brian Scheetz, Mary Pat Mazzola

**Members absent:**

NA

**Community Members present**:

Anne Slattery – Village Trustee

Kate Goble

Marc Baetens

Steven Korn

The Village of Old Bennington Planning Commission was called to order at 7:02 PM.

Planning commissioners introduced themselves.

Public comments not related to agenda: Kate Goble and Marc Baetens introduced themselves as new owners of The Four Chimneys.

Nancy gave update of search for an Administrative Officer. She reported outreach includes administrative officers in outlying communities and assistance from BCRC.

Nancy gave an overview of permits that were administratively approved.

Carl Feltz explained his permit for a deck and replacement window. PC member, Galen, questioned the use of railings and after some discussion, Carl reported that the permit would be as is without railings. Questions were asked about notification of abutting neighbors. All appropriate neighbors were reportedly informed without reply.

Discussion regarding Village Plan update. Galen volunteered to check when an update is due.

Discussion regarding Walloomsac Inn property being vandalized and recommendation from Bennington PD to fence in the structure, while repairs are being done. Discussion followed regarding fencing bylaws and length of time a fence may be needed. Question from public regarding difference between variance and bylaw change. Nancy reported BCRC recommendation to add an addendum to Zoning Ordinances that would give guidance on temporary fencing.

Discussion regarding use of Zoom for community to attend meetings. Anne Slattery reported she would look into the Village paying for a Zoom account for a PC member.

Discussion PC priorities including hiring of new Administrative Officer and ways to supply potential new residents with Village Plan and Bylaws.

Non Planning Commission members left the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Brian moved for PC to move into executive session to review the Feltz application. Galen seconded with unanimous approval.

Mary Pat moved to exit executive session. Brian seconded with unanimous approval.

Brian moved to approve Feltz application, without railings and including steps, contingent on Zoning Board approval. Galen seconded with unanimous approval.

Planning Commission members discussed PC’s priority to work in the best interest of the community.

Brian motioned to adjourn with Mary Pat seconding and unanimous approval.

Committee adjourned at 9 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Pat Mazzola

Planning Commission Member