

RUPERT PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes of meeting Dec 3, 2018. UNAPPROVED

Attending: PC – Jed Rubin (Chair), Charlie Rockwell, Bob Bain, Phil Mazzucco, Phil Chapman (Secretary). DRB - Don Lewis Zoning Administrator – John LaVecchia Jr. Others: Deb Baker (Rupert Select Board), Jane Davies, Peter Pelton, Jean Ceglowski, Sandra and Kevin Maloney, Don Campbell, Catherine Bryars (BCRC).

Meeting called to order at 7:40 PM

Minutes of meeting Nov 12 approved

Next meeting: Jan 7, 2019

The meeting was devoted to a presentation by Catherine Bryars of the BCRC on Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans. Besides a 13 page application and Determination Standards Checklist, she also distributed copies of the Energy section of the 2015 Rupert Town Plan, a May 2018 draft of the Dorset Energy Chapter, and the Energy chapter of the Aug 20, 2018 Sunderland Municipal Plan. The purpose of the presentation was to urge Rupert to apply for and comply with the requirements under Act 174 to include an updated Energy Chapter in our Town Plan. The “carrot” would be subsidized consultant fees, probably supplied by the BCRC, and, most importantly, the ability to control our own destiny regarding placement and design of energy producing and delivery systems within the town borders. The “sticks” include losing control over the decisions of energy related developers as well as 9 to 12 months of monthly work sessions working together with consultants in preparing and obtaining approval for our own Energy Chapter. This work would normally, but not necessarily, be done by Rupert’s Planning Commission. The town must make a decision and convey it to the BCRC no later than Jan 1, 2019.

This portion of the PC meeting was concluded at 8:20 PM. Following an intervening meeting of the DRB, the PC meeting resumed at 8:50.

Following a brief discussion it was unanimously agreed that the Planning Commission should advise the BCRC of our intentions to supply an Energy Chapter to our Town Plan. Jed Rubin agreed to respond to Catherine Bryars.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM

Respectfully submitted, Phil Chapman, Secretary