

Townshend Planning Commission

Minutes

April 9, 2025

- Present:** Bob DeSiervo, Rick Matschke, Liza Martin, Doug Ballantine, and Andrew Snelling.
Members of the Public: Anand Fedele from Windham Regional Commission (WRC)
- 1. Call to Order:** Chair DeSiervo called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.
 - 2. Additions and Deletions:** DeSiervo requested that a discussion of the Townshend Dam Master Plan be added under new business. There were no objections.
 - 3. Members of the Public:** Anand Fedele will present under the Town Plan item on the agenda.
 - 4. Approval of Minutes:** Ballantine moved and Matschke seconded a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting of March 26, 2025 as submitted. The motion passed.
 - 5. Correspondence:** Newfane hearing notice on zoning bylaw changes: The changes weren't discussed but Snelling asked if all the Commissioners had received it. Martin said she hadn't seen it and Snelling agreed to send her a copy.
 - 6. Old Business:**
Town Plan: Mr. Fedele let the Commissioner's know that he had posted a copy of the full draft Town Plan for review on the WRC shared drive. DeSiervo offered to arrange to get printed copies distributed for those that prefer paper. Mr. Fedele worked through his summary memo on the significant changes while noting the changes in the draft document. The Commissioners asked questions and offered suggestions for revisions. There was a longer discussion under "Community Facilities" about how to address the Town's Taft Meadow property given all the past suggested uses for the property. It was agreed that the plan should call for a study of all the possible proposed uses.
Mr. Fedele inquired if it would be possible to get all the Commissioners comments on the plan by the next meeting. The Commissioners expressed that would be a challenge but agreed to shoot for the next meeting date for a final review.
Town Hall: DeSiervo noted that he had sent out clean final copies of the drawings, project manual and RFP. He stated that he had submitted copies of the RFP notice to the Reformer and Commons for public notice. He will also post on Front Porch Forum and send out to a list of potential local bidders. Matschke has agreed to be the primary point of contact to respond to questions and schedule site visits.

7. New Business:

Townshend Dam Master Plan: DeSiervo informed the group that the Army Corps of Engineers is updating the master plan for both the Townshend and Ball Mountain dams. This is the time for the community to be heard on the lack of promised recreation opportunities at the Townshend Lake because of the heavy silting. A kick off and information gathering meeting is scheduled for April 15th at the Jamaica town hall at 4:00 pm. There will be no formal presentation but representatives will be available to hear comments and answer questions. All official statements need to be submitted in writing.

Meeting Schedule:

Regular Meeting: April 23, 2025 @ 5:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting: May 14, 2025 @ 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

Chair, DeSiervo, seeing no further business to come before the Commission adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Snelling