



PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Chris Letourneau Meeting Room and via Zoom

MINUTES

Zoom Details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6165843896?pwd=STduU2JzTmpiVmE1MXZSaWZWLzVadz09>

Meeting ID: 616 584 3896 | Passcode: 5243524

Dial by your Location: 1 929 205 6099 (New York)

1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:30 PM

Call to Order 6:36pm

BOARD PRESENT

Chair Suzanna Brown

Emily Johnson

Greg Drew

BOARD ABSENT

Jared Waite

Tony Heinlein

STAFF PRESENT

Doug Bergstrom, Zoning Administrator/Planning Coordinator

Kollene Caspers, Zoning Clerk

PUBLIC PRESENT

Kevin Camisa (via Zoom)

2. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

3. DISCUSSION

A. Town Report Discussion - Review Vermont Town Reports and discuss options

- After examination of other town plans, S. Brown opined all plans presented similar language, graphics, etc. Discussion of Georgia's Town Plan needs to have more than the basic information provided by the other planning groups. Georgia should have data, Mission, Goals & Objectives, Vision Statement. Should not have multiple pages for a Purpose to a town plan.
- G. Drew suggested we use our own information from files and NEMRC to gather the data regarding Town of Georgia statistics.
- G. Drew questioned K. Camisa on how much a Town Plan affects the business model of developers and builders, etc. K. Camisa explained developers use the Plan to reach the Town's goals and desires to make it easier for the developer.
- K. Camisa explained the Permit Process from the developer side versus the town side. Very difficult to get approvals, developers need to ask for extensions before next milestones or permitting deadlines. More reasonable timelines are necessary.
- G. Drew suggested the new Town Plan should include different section to revisit timelines to update how long things are taking in real time now. Given the different agencies taking longer as well as getting workers to execute the building plans. The Town should look into setting up milestones for the permit process to better work with developers.
- 5 step plan to conducting a community assessment, ZA will send out the document to the Planning Board.
- S. Brown, suggested the need to entice the businesses to Town of Georgia that residents expressed a want/need in the SV. How do we find out what residents want/need?
- Georgia Industrial Development Board, how can they help develop the Town of Georgia?
- Charter for Town of Georgia? 1% tax would be a benefit. That would include the 1% back from Amazon.
- Discussion of other towns and their business or downtown districts, what businesses are there and what is the draw to bring in others from out of town?
- Survey suggested to ask Town of Georgia residents- what businesses/services do you want to see in town? To be taken into consideration- part time or full-time resident, ages, children or pets in the home, as well as other pertinent information. Questionnaire ideally would go out in August so there can be several weeks to get input. Online surveys available by September with the new website. We can work with the GCEC or the new Rec director to complete the surveys.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES 6/13/23

A. Planning Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved with minor changes.

Motion made by Drew, Seconded by Johnson.

Voting Yea: Chair Brown, Johnson, Drew

5. PLAN NEXT MEETING AGENDA

A. Planning Meeting 7/11/23 6:30pm

6. OTHER BUSINESS

7. DELIBERATIONS

8. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn meeting 9:15pm

Motion made by Drew, Seconded by Johnson.

Voting Yea: Chair Brown

Posted to the Town website, four designated places within the Town of Georgia (Town Clerk's Office, Georgia Public Library, Maplefields & Georgia Market), and e-mailed to the local media.

Signed: Douglas Bergstrom, Zoning Administrator, Planning Coordinator

Phone: 802-524-3524 | Fax: 802-524-3543 | Website: townofgeorgia.com