

**Town of Bennington  
Planning Commission**

**Wednesday, July 20, 2011**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Town of Bennington Conference Room  
205 South Street  
Bennington, Vermont 05201**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Charles Copp, Barry Horst, Michael McDonough  
**Also Present** Dan Monks - Planning Director

**Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.**

**Discussion - Re-location of VELCO Substation:** The Planning Commission again discussed the proposed re-location of the VELCO substation at length. The Planning Commission asked the Planning Director to communicate to VELCO the Planning Commission's continuing concerns regarding the extent of the conserved area and lighting. The Planning Commission hopes to complete its review of the project at its August 3, 2011 meeting.

**Municipal Planning Grant Application:** The Planning Commission discussed several projects that would be eligible for a Municipal Planning Grant. The Planning Commission agreed that a grant to develop an economic development strategy has merit and should be explored. At the next meeting the Commission will make a final decision regarding what project the Commission will seek funding for.

**Discussion - Process for Re-evaluating Benmar LLC Parcel Zoning:** The Planning Commission discussed at length the process and schedule for its effort to re-evaluate the zoning on the Benmar parcel at the request of the Select Board. The Planning Commission determined that it would first gather as much information regarding the parcel as possible and prepare a background report for the Select Board. The Planning Commission will then request a joint meeting with the Select Board to discuss the Select Board's objectives and vision for the property. After meeting with the Select Board, the Planning Commission will prepare a report with a recommendation(s). The Planning Commission hopes to complete the initial report by early September and hopes to meet with the Select Board in mid to late September.

**The meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted

Daniel W. Monks  
Planning Director