

TOWN OF WARREN  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
MONDAY DECEMBER 16, 2013

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Members Present: Craig Klofach, Mike Ketchel, Dan Raddock, Jim Sanford and Randy Graves.

Others Present: Joshua Schwartz, Bob Ackland, Miron Malboeuf and Ruth Robbins.

Agenda: Call meeting to order, 7:30 pm.

TOWN OF WARREN, VT

Received for Record 1/14 2014  
at 11:35 o'clock A M and Received in

1. Opportunity For Public Comment 7:30 - 7:45

2. Proposed 2014 Planning & Zoning Budget

3. Joshua Schwartz, Executive Director  
Mad River Valley Planning District

- a. Data Reports
- b. Warren Village Vermont Downtown Assistance Team (V-DAT) project
- c. Neighborhood Development Areas

4. Review & sign minutes from December 2nd, 2013

5. Other & New business:

Vol. 226 Page 195-196  
*Ruth Robbins*  
TOWN CLERK

Mr. Klofach called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

There was no public comment at the beginning of the meeting.

The first item the PC took up was a presentation by Joshua Schwartz, the Executive director of the Mad River Planning District that encompassed the Data Reports, the 2014 budget and the status of the VDAT project. Mr. Schwartz started first with sharing the design renderings for the updating of Main Street in Warren village that were a result of the work done during the VDAT project. It showed two projects, the first being aesthetic enhancements to the bridge next to the Pitcher Inn and second, some "street scaping" at the intersection of Brook Road and Main Street that will produce some traffic calming. Mr. Schwartz continued to tell the Commission members that there was some funding available via a community development block grant should the PC want to go forward with these suggested projects. He told the PC that the grant monies would fund 90% with a 10% commitment from the town. After some discussion the PC agreed to have an application submitted but not knowing the amount needed for the 10% match noted that they could always decline the grant if the Select Board did not have the funds in the budget.

The next topic that was discussed was the proposed MRVPD budget of which the Town Of Warren is responsible to fund one fourth of. Mr. Ackland spoke to this item as a member of the Steering committee that oversees the MRVPD. He told the PC that for the past couple of years prior to last year the planning district had been level funded and then requested a 13.48% increase for 2013. Mr. Ackland gave an overview as well outlining the history of the formation of the MRVPD and the benefits that go beyond just planning. He also pointed out the outstanding job that Mr. Schwartz has done since coming on board in late 2008 and that to date he has had approved 1.2 million dollars in grants. It was noted at this point by one PC member that despite the amount of grant monies secured, a portion of that goes to consultants who are often from out of state. Mr. Ackland acknowledged that but said sometimes the right "skill set" required is not found locally. A new item which is partially responsible for the increase in the MRVPD budget is the addition of a part time employee to assist the Executive Director in an administrative capacity. Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Ackland finished up their presentation with a preview of this years data information, a requirement of the MOU, which is still in process of being compiled.

