

The Barnard subcommittee of the Barnard Planning Commission

Minutes

November 2, 2023

The purpose of this meeting was to provide the Planning Commission with information on scenic ridge line designation. This subcommittee is not a decision making body.

Attendees Ed Jodice, Doreen Hurley, and Richard Lancaster (Selectman)

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 by Ed Jodice.
2. The minutes of the October 11, 2023, meeting we reviewed and accepted. Ed will scan the handwritten minutes and submit them to the Town Administrator.
2. There was no public comment and no changes to the agenda.
3. Subcommittee discussion of changes to the Town Plan, and future zoning regulations, to be recommended to the Planning Commission.

A change to the Town Plan, Section IV. CURRENT AND PROPOSED LAND USE, subsection RURAL, FOREST AND FARMLANDS AREA, Item 6, had been suggested by Richard Lancaster. The text of the change had been sent to Ed but was not available for this meeting. The suggestion will be presented at the next Planning Commission meeting.

The discussion of potential changes to the zoning regulations centered on the idea of regulating ridgeline development.

Ed had talked to Pete Fellows at Two Rivers, and noted that Pete could produce a ridgeline map, similar to the Norwich and Pomfret maps, for a fee. Pete would require that the Planning Commission supply the necessary parameters for the map.

Doreen felt that a map was needed to properly define the areas that would be subject to ridgeline regulation and should be as unambiguous as possible. She also noted that the Pomfret and Norwich zoning regulations were not a good fit for Barnard. She felt that Pomfret was overly complicated, and that Norwich may not be explicit enough.

It was agreed that Barnard would need to write its own regulations, using the concepts in the Pomfret and Norwich plans, and that a map would be needed.

Doreen moved that the Subcommittee request that the Planning Commission budget for the drawing of a map that designates the ridgeline areas in Barnard. Ed seconded. The motion was approved. Ed will get an idea of the cost of a map from Pete Fellows.

4. Adjourned at 8:42. The next meeting will be scheduled after the regular meeting of the Planning Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard Lancaster, Clerk of the meeting