Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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Planning Commission-Pizza Party for Panton Planning

Meeting Minutes
April 11th, 2026

Committee Members Present: Jamie Dayton, Chair, Logan Roth-Longe, Dennis Mueller, Gretchen Bailey

Citizens present: Sharon Ashcraft, Chip Mather, Jen Roth, Diane Merrill, Dave Merrill, Mary Metcalf, Christine Erickson, Collette McNamara, Mac McNamara, Lorraine Keyser, Louis Giovanella, Robert DeGraaf, Mckayla DeGraaf, Danelle Birong, Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC); Jolyon Larson, ACRPC; Kyle Rowe, Town Clerk/Treasurer

On Zoom: None

Planning Commission

1. Jamie called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and provided an introduction to the event.
2. Jamie proposed to the board to suspend Robert's Rules for the duration of the meeting, Logan seconded-**VOTE-ALL IN FAVOR**
3. Danelle gave a presentation on the survey results (included with these minutes).
    a. There was general discussion on the survey results and responses.
4. Jolyon began presenting on the Energy Planning component of the survey;
    a. There was general discussion on the energy portion, and some of the mapping.
5. Danelle began a group exercise on what items to maintain, evolve, and transform in the Town Plan;
    a. A variety of discussions were had on the various elements to accomplish that goal, as well as priorities in the town.
    b. Items such as Arnold Bay improvements, bike paths, increased public resources, a town wide event, and traffic control were discussed.
6. Danelle discussed several major areas to get public input;
    a. Housing
        i. It was noted that zoning improvements were needed to both the regulations and the map
        ii. Discussion continued on what the group felt made Panton "home", with answers including its rural and scenic beauty, community, and family.
        iii. It was noted that 10 acre zoning can be difficult to manage as parcel owners age. Cluster housing was discussed favorabley.
        iv. Costs of housing, both from a rental and construction point of view were discussed, with the inflated costs being noted as a serious barrier.

v. It was noted that the regional and state housing goals weren't realistic targets for Panton.

b. Energy
   i. It was noted that self sufficiency in energy needs would be a great goal.
   ii. It was also noted that not many in town want to see further development of large scale solar arrays.
   iii. It was additionally discussed that solar canopies or other methods of solar panel installation were viable alternatives to large scale development.
   iv. A discussion on the preferred energy maps, old vs new, was held. It was noted that Logan will be establishing the Energy Planning Working Group in order to better discuss this key issue.
   v. It was noted that the positive benefits of electrification were still positive benefits, but that a more honest representation of costs was an important part of the discussion that can often be overlooked.
   vi. It was noted that there are international implications to energy costs that are present.
   vii. General home efficiency was discussed, and the ways to improve it.

7. Next Steps;
   a. The PC is meeting every month this year, and will be handling different sections of the plan during upcoming meetings.
   b. The Working Group will be formed to handle exclusively energy discussions.
   c. After the plan is complete, public hearings will be held, and the Selectboard will also be able to weigh in, and hold hearings.
   d. The goal will be to complete the plan by 2027.