

## Worcester Planning Commission

### Minutes

February 21, 2017

**Members Present:** William Arrand, Martin Kovaks, Toni Kaeding, Audra Brown

**Guests:** Ginny Burley, Central Vermont New Directions; Laura Ranker, Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission; Suzanne Arrand, note taker

Ginny passed around 4 documents having to do with wellness planning and statistics: "A Primer on Planning for Prevention", for Lamoille County, 3-4-50 Vermont, 3-4-50 for Washington County and some sample priorities that could be incorporated into our Town Plan. The 3-4-50 tip sheets describe the 3 behaviors and 4 chronic diseases that lead to more than 50% of the deaths in Vermont.

Several members of the commission had information for Ginny about wellness initiatives that are currently happening in Worcester.

Later, Laura Ranker, after attending the Select Board meeting, dropped in to update us on the progress on Worcester's Hazard Mitigation Plan. The latest draft will be forwarded to us so we can think about how we can add hazard mitigation language to the town plan.

Discussion turned to "planning for the Plan" and Toni demonstrated some of her "Velvet Hammer" techniques by suggesting some preliminary assignments. Audra has some useful background as a result of her work in Montpelier. She will see what needs to be done to update our maps and statistics. She is also interested in increasing public transportation opportunities. Marty has already updated the energy section and reminded us that quite a lot of our current Town Plan already meets statutory regulations. Bill will speak at town meeting about the Plan and will try to recruit new members. He will also look for information about economic growth and unemployment. Toni will work on organizational stuff and, eventually, Sooz will work on formatting the new updates into the document.

We will probably see each other unofficially at Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 7. We will meet again at the Grange on Tuesday, March 21 at 6:30pm.