

Lunenburg Planning Committee

Meeting Minutes: September 24, 2026

Planning Committee Members in Attendance:

Tina Breault, Gary Briggs, Liz Benoit, Nate Brown

Community Members: None

Items to add to the agenda

- Top of the Common Committee has asked for a Letter of Support for a grant for the old town hall.
- Discussion on what the Planning Committee should be doing.
- Gary needs to leave before 7pm for another meeting so any voting items should happen first.

Approve the minutes of last meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of May 28 made by Tina. Seconded by Liz.

Question on what we were proposing for the Grugnale property: We don't have a proposal at this time, we need to come up with a viable plan that we could then present to the Selectboard.

No further discussion. All voted in favor.

Volunteer Vacant Property Registration Program

Tina made a motion: That we make a recommendation to the Selectboard for them to implement a voluntary vacant property registration program as defined in the draft. Gary seconded. Opened for discussion:

- We should develop the registration form, resource packet and checklist that are listed in the draft prior to presenting to the Selectboard.
- Change verbiage to specify "vacant AND abandoned" wherever needed.
- Exemptions – add verbiage for offsite/remote work for extended periods of time.
- Add camps to Resort/Periodic Use bullet.
- There was so much discussion about how this could be misinterpreted and that we need to clearly define what the goal of the program is and ensure that it doesn't unintentionally affect properties that have valid reasons for being vacant; some of these included people being in temporary extended care situations; or properties that have gone into rebate.
- As such Tina withdrew the motion so that we can have a lot more discussion and continue to revise the program details.

Letter of Support for Top of the Common Committee

Chris Lingley, on behalf of the Top of the Common Committee, has asked for a Letter of Support from the Planning Committee for their VT Historic Preservation Grant for the old town hall. The funding will assist in stabilizing the structural components of the building, the first step in restoring the building for public use.

- Everyone whole heartedly supports the project.
- Only concern was related to getting Selectboard agreement on moving forward with the grant and the project. Nate will contact Chris directly to discuss further.
- Letter of Support is already drafted and will be provided to TOC as soon as we get the go ahead from Selectboard.

Planning Committee

Gary expressed concern about what we as a Planning Committee should be doing. A google of planning committee activities includes: doing studies and making recommendations on energy, housing, transportation, conservation, economic development, infrastructure, etc.

- Tina will send links to Vermont's planning information. This was done for the first 2 years planning committee's but was not sent to everyone this year.
- Tina will send out the plan tracker so that we can get it updated and start working against it again.

Next Meeting

Meetings are the 4th Thursday of every month – Next meeting is October 22.

- Gary will update the town calendar and reserve the room.
- Liz will update the CESER calendar and future newsletters.

Meeting Adjourned

Motion to adjourn made by Nate; seconded by Liz. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.