

TOWN OF RUTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: August 6th, 2026

LOCATION: Town Hall and a publicly accessible conference line

OPEN MEETING 6:30 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Chair Barbara Pulling, Dana Peterson, Howard Burgess, Sherman Hunter, Jerry Stearns, Norm Cohen, and Demetrio Gagnon. All members are voting members for this meeting.

Members of the Public Present: None

Approval of the Agenda:

Mr. Peterson moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Hunter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Budget to actual review for the last fiscal year

1. The expenses overall were lower than budgeted.
2. The legal expense line was over budget due to the subdivision bylaw work.

Old Business: Subdivision Bylaws: Selectboard public hearings (July 28 and August 11; possibly a third hearing)

1. The first hearing was held on July 28th.
2. Discussed some of the comments and questions that came up.
3. If substantive changes are made by the Board at the next hearing on the 11th, the bylaws may need to come back to the Planning Commission.

Old Business: Pocket Park Otter Creek Engineering design

1. Otter Creek Engineering presented their design for the path and overlook.
2. Discussed the design features.
3. The Selectboard needs to designate some funds to purchase benches, picnic tables and fencing.
4. Discussed the signs and the process so far trying to develop the content and get them made.
5. Discussed working with a local vendor to get some questions answered for sign layout. Mr. Peterson moved to authorize the Chair to do this work. Mr. Hunter seconded the motion. The Commission is frustrated with the progress made so far. After extensive discussion, the motion carried unanimously.
6. Discussed the name for the park. Input from the public will be solicited at the Community Day event. There will be a multiple choice given with the option to include another name. Some suggested names were discussed
7. Information for tribes that are federally recognized cannot be on the same sign as a tribe that is not.

Old Business: Town Plan survey

1. Discussed having an informal survey at the Community Day event to gather input from Town residents.
2. There are a variety of topics which will be discussed during the Town plan update. These could be included in the survey.

Approval of Minutes July 16th, 2026:

Mr. Peterson moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Hunter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Peterson and Mr. Stearns abstained.

Adjournment:

Mr. Stearns moved to adjourn. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Sweet

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Barbara Pulling	Date
Rutland Town Planning Commission Chair	