

M E E T I N G N O T I C E

BENNINGTON SELECT BOARD

Monday, October 10, 2022

Bennington Fire Facility

Multi-Purpose Room - 3rd Floor

130 River Street

Bennington, Vermont 05201

A G E N D A

6:00 PM

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Vision Statement

3. Consent Agenda

6:00 PM - 6:05 PM

A. Minutes of September 26, 2022

B. Warrants

4. Public Comment

6:05 PM - 6:20 PM

5. Bennington Police Update

6:20 PM - 6:50 PM

6. ADA Transition Plan

6:50 PM - 7:20 PM

7. Implementing the Town Vision

7:20 PM - 7:30 PM

8. Manager's Report

7:30 PM - 7:40 PM

9. Upcoming Agendas

7:40 PM - 7:45 PM

10. Other Business

7:45 PM - 7:55 PM

11. Executive Session

A. Real Estate

We endeavor to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals to engage and participate fully. To request an accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility, please contact Paul Dansereau, Facilities Director:
pdansereau@benningtonvt.org or call 802-447-9715.

1 **BENNINGTON SELECT BOARD MEETING**

2 **130 RIVER STREET**

3 **BENNINGTON, VERMONT 05201**

4 **SEPTEMBER 26, 2022**

5 **MINUTES**

6 **SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jeannie Jenkins-Chair; Bruce Lee-Clark; Jim Carroll; and
7 Tom Haley.

8 **SELECT BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Gary Corey, Jeanne Conner, and Sarah Perrin.

9 **ALSO PRESENT:** Stuart Hurd-Town Manager; Dan Monks-Assistant Town Manager; Shannon
10 Barsotti-Community Development Director; Jonah Spivak-Communications Coordinator;
11 Melanie Paskevich and Aaron Jones-NeighborhoodWorks; Jim Henry; Sam Restino; Nancy
12 White; Wendy Shackey; 10 citizens; Josh Boucher-CAT-TV; and Nancy H. Lively-Secretary.

13 At 6:00pm, Chair Jeannie Jenkins called the meeting to order.

14 **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

15 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

16 **2. VISION STATEMENT**

17 Mr. Lee-Clark read the Town's Vision Statement that was adopted by the Select Board
18 on August 24, 2020:

19 "Bennington is a welcoming, engaged, inclusive, resilient community where everyone
20 regardless of identity shares in our vitality and benefits from an outstanding quality of life."

21 **3. CONSENT AGENDA**

22 **A. MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2022**

23 **B. WARRANTS**

24 *Bruce Lee-Clark moved and Jim Carroll seconded to approve the Consent Agenda*
25 *amended as follows:*

26 *Line 11, 98, 99, and 101, Change "ACES" to "AIDS"*

27 *Line 126, Change "Acting" to "Equity" and "Jean" to "Jeanne"*

28 *The motion carried with Gary Corey, Jeanne Conner, and Sarah Perrin absent.*

29 **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following Public Comment Practices to make the experience for all involved a productive and informative use of the Public Comment period at Select Board meetings was placed on the podium for those that wish to make Public Comments to reference:

1. Public Comment is to allow residents an opportunity to share information or make announcements that benefit the community at large.
2. The topic should not be related to an agenda item. If a member of the public wants to comment on an agenda item they can do so during the discussion of that item.
3. Comments should be 3 minutes or less.
4. You are required to state your real name and town of residence.
5. Sharing comments, announcements and concerns are encouraged rather than asking questions. Public Comment is not a time for discussion. If you have specific questions it is best to call the Town Manager to get a full explanation and accurate information.
6. If the topic requires much discussion the item will be considered as an agenda item at a future meeting.

Jim Henry, Executive Director of SEALL, Inc., shared the history of SEALL, Inc. and their community based corrections process with thanks to the Bennington Police Department, Rescue Squad, and Town Staff for their help throughout the years. SEALL, Inc. will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary on October 22, 2022 at the Bennington Elks Club from 6:00pm to 9:00pm with speakers, hors d'oeuvres, and a cash bar.

Nancy White: Is concerned about the lack of information on the Benn High project and we should be putting a gym at the rec center instead. Isn't voter approval required to go forward with the lease/to purchase agreement? 50 parking spaces are insufficient for everything that is planned at the building and Mr. Gilbert should be at the public meeting. *Ms. Jenkins: There will be a public hearing, you know as much as we do at this point, we have only authorized \$10,000 of ARPA funds for a feasibility study thus far. We will not be moving forward until we have all of the information and public discussion has taken place. The public hearing will not be taking place at the Benn High because it isn't safe to do so.*

Wendy Sharkey, Bennington Free Library, explained the Mini Golf event that will be taking place at the Library on September 30th from 6:00pm-10:00pm and October 1st from 10:00am-4:00pm. Golf will be played throughout the library with sponsors for a hole, best dressed hole competition, food, a cash bar and a silent auction. Admission on Friday is \$25/person and on Saturday, \$2/person or \$10/family. Tickets may be purchased ahead of time or signed up for and paid for upon arrival.

5. PUBLIC HEARING - NEIGHBORWORKS CLOSEOUT

Shannon Barsotti did the following presentation:

- The Town received a \$355,000 grant from the Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) to sub grant to NeighborWorks for the Rental Rehab Program.
- The primary purpose was to rehabilitate thirteen vacant, blighted, deteriorated rental units in Bennington into affordable, safe, code-compliant rental units meeting HUD Quality Housing Standards for thirteen low-income families.

Melanie Paskevich, NeighborWorks Director of Operations, added the following:

- NeighborWorks received the grant in 2015 and we began working with landlords to bring their units available for rental.
- We provided project coordination during the projects from start to end.
- Rent is set at 100% marketable rents with 51% of tenants from low income for 5 years. Most of them, however, are at nearly 100% low income.
- All tenants must come from Bennington.
- The amounts for the upgrades were from \$8,000-\$20,000/unit.
- The 13 units were at 5 different locations in Bennington.
- This was a pilot program and partnership with the Town has now given us statewide rental repair programs. The Vermont Housing Improvement Program (VHIP) is available.
- NeighborWorks is a non-profit business since 1996 in Bennington, Addison and Rutland counties and offers many services including loans for home repair, energy, and down payments. We are all about getting people in their homes permanently.

Board questions/comments answered by Ms. Paskevich:

Ms. Jenkins: How do we get the word out? *We can provide \$50,000/unit for a new additional unit to owner occupied houses; \$50,000 or \$30,000/unit for repairs to a unit that has been vacant for at least 90 days depending on the number of bedrooms; or accessory to dwelling units. Owners must rent to the homeless or refugee settlements for HUD fair market rent for 5 years.*

Mr. Carroll: How do you define an apartment? *The amount of time it has been vacant which is currently at least 90 days.*

Public questions/comments answered by Ms. Paskevich:

Sam Restino: Have you met with the Town's Energy Committee? *We did a couple of years ago but would love to again.* And, do you make proposals for foreclosures? *We have, and can, if we know who the landlords are.*

Nancy White: Were you able to work with 5 different property owners? *Actually there were 4, and yes.* When the work is done does the value of the property increase on the Grand List? *I would think so.* It would be helpful if the Fair Market Value was on the Town's website. *You can find that for any town by putting in HUD FMR, State, and Town.*

101 **6. VERMONT COMMUNITY FUND EQUITABLE & INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES GRANT**
102 **APPLICATION**

103 Dan Monks did the following presentation:

- 104 ➤ The Town of Bennington Planning Commission intends to apply for a Vermont
105 Community Fund (VCE) Equitable and Inclusive Communities Grant in the amount of
106 \$6,750 to fund Diversity/Equity/Inclusion (DEI) training for the Planning Commission and
107 staff, and the development of a public outreach plan for the pending update of the
108 Bennington Town Plan.
- 109 ➤ We must update the Town Plan every 7 years with the next update due in 2025.
- 110 ➤ Public outreach will be to interview stakeholders for land use in the community with
111 some of the funds of this grant to hire a consulting firm to develop a reach out process
112 for all members of the community.
- 113 ➤ The BCRC were the ones who found this grant opportunity for us and drafted the first
114 draft.
- 115 ➤ This falls in line with our Vision Statement.

116 *Board questions/comments answered by Mr. Monks:*

117 Mr. Lee-Clark: What will happen if we don't get this grant to do the DEI training? *We had hoped*
118 *to do this by the end of the year, but if we don't get this grant, we will see other grant*
119 *opportunities in this year's budget beginning in July 2023.*

120 *Public questions/comments answered by Mr. Monks:*

121 Nancy White: We should be televising the Planning Commission meetings on CAT-TV as it is the
122 best way to inform the public.

123 ***Bruce lee-Clark moved and Tom Haley seconded to support the request for the***
124 ***Vermont Community Fund Equitable and Inclusive Communities Grant in the amount of***
125 ***\$6,750.00 as presented. The motion carried with Gary Corey, Jeanne Conner, and Sarah***
126 ***Perrin absent.***

127 **7. IMPLEMENTING THE TOWN VISION**

128 Ms. Jenkins stated that the ADA Draft Plan will be on the 10/10/22 agenda and we are
129 still in process with IDEAL Vermont who also has a funding stream for DEI.

130 **8. MANAGER'S REPORT**

131 Mr. Hurd did the following report:

132 Willow Park Playground - We have had a slight delay and staff are now projecting a mid to late
133 October finish of the project. A ribbon cutting will be scheduled when we are certain that
134 completion is near. Weather and staffing are the critical factors.

Benmont Avenue/County Street Sewer - This project is scheduled to start in early October as early as next week weather permitting on Benmont Avenue with work to begin on County Street in the spring.

COVID Test Kits - A majority of the test kits that we had are now gone, however, those remaining have had their expiration date extended to January 31, 2023 and potentially to March 2023 by the manufacturer.

Maple Street Rebuild - This project is complete with paving, new drainage, new sewer, replacement of lead service lines and new sidewalks.

Town's New Website - Work continues on the upgraded website with the unveiling to have been in October but looks like that may be delayed. Key staff will be trained on uploading to the site.

9. UPCOMING AGENDA

October 10, 2022 - Bennington Police Department Update

October 10, 2022 - ADA Draft Plan

October 10, 2022 - Lake Paran Presentation

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Carroll: Noted the passing of Joan Douglas, a wonderful woman, who worked at the Bennington Free Library for 44 years.

Ms. Jenkins: Stated how well done the Critical Confrontation Presentation was at the Bennington Museum on September 23rd. The focus was to use the Lincoln sculpture in the front of the Museum on how we deal with public sculpture and was excellent, including the panel of an artist, an historian, and an art historian that focused on Civil War monuments. They have two more coming up - October 14th The Future of Tourism, and October 28th The Opioid Epidemic.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. LEGAL

At 6:47pm, Bruce Lee-Clark moved and Tom Haley seconded that the meeting was adjourned finding that an Executive Session be held on Legal as premature public knowledge would place a person involved in the subject matter at a substantial disadvantage. There will be no actions taken on these items when going back into Open Session. The motion carried unanimously.

168 Respectfully submitted,

169 Nancy H. Lively

170 Secretary

171

**SELECT BOARD
MINUTES ADDENDUM**

September 26, 2022

Present: Jeannie Jenkins, Chair, Tom Haley, Jim Carroll, and Bruce L Clark. Absent: Jeanne Conner, V. Chair, Gary Corey, and Sarah Perrin. Staff present: Stuart Hurd, Town Manager, Dan Monks, Assistant Town Manager, Chief Paul Doucette, Lt Cam Grande and two HSI staff.

The Board went into executive session at 6:47 a legal matter.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:56 pm. but took no action. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Stuart A. Hurd



TOWN OF BENNINGTON

3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022

Americans with Disabilities Plan Update

Adopted: _____

PURPOSE

The Town of Bennington adopted an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan on July 11, 1995. Significant changes and improvements were completed since the adoption of the Transition Plan; therefore, the Town of Bennington began the process of updating the Transition Plan. This updated ADA Plan is intended to address accessibilities in all Town of Bennington programs and facilities.

An initial audit of the Town of Bennington Facilities was completed with the assistance of the Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) on June 29, 2022. The VCIL Report dated July 13, 2022 (See Appendix A) as well as the Town of Bennington Notes prepared June 29, 2022 (See Appendix B) are incorporated into the Updated ADA Transition Plan.

The Town of Bennington ADA Plan will be reviewed annually and updated every five years to ensure it remains relevant as Town of Bennington programs, activities, and facilities change. The overarching goal is the continual improvement and upgrade to enable compliance with and when practical exceeding 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

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*3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022*DEFINITIONS

Disabled Individual – Any person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such an impairment, or is regarded as having such impairment.

Facility – All or any portion of a building structure, parking lot, road, walk, equipment, or other real or personal property or interests therein.

Major Life Activities – Functions such as (but not limited to) caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working.

Program or Activity – the operations of the agency or organizational unit of a recipient government or of a secondary recipient funded with entitlement funds.

Reasonable Accommodation – The act of making facilities useable and accessible; restructuring jobs, modifying work schedules, modifying equipment, providing interpreters, or similar acts. **

Undue Hardship – A determination, case-by-case, that the cost of reasonable accommodation is too high in relation to budget size and number of employees (persons) served by a particular program or activity.

** Special Note: Reasonable accommodation, in general, refers to employment, not facilities. With facilities, governments are not necessarily required to make each existing facility, or every part thereof accessible to and useable by persons with disabilities. It is expected that governments will ensure that their programs and activities, when viewed in their entirety, are accessible and useable by persons with disabilities.

3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022

ELECTIONS

The Town of Bennington election polling place is the Bennington Fire Station. The accessible entrance is located at the Lincoln Street public entrance adjacent to the parking lot. Accessible voting machines are available during State and Federal elections:



TABLET FEATURES:

- Enables voters with disabilities to vote independently
- Accessibility Devices Supported
- Lightweight
- Portable
- Simple Setup



Additionally, for all elections curbside voting assistance is available to individuals where an election official will meet an individual in the parking lot and provide a ballot to enable the person to vote from their vehicle location.

Individuals are welcome to contact the Town of Bennington ADA Coordinator and/or the Town Clerk's Office at least 3 weeks prior to any election to identify any specific needs or requirements to enable them to be able to exercise their right to vote in person.

During elections poll workers will be informed on the various voting machines available to meet an individual's needs.

As voting technology improvements continue the Town of Bennington will implement and adapt its polling station accordingly.

*3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022*MEETINGS

In general, any Town of Bennington meeting are open to the public and must be accessible to persons with disabilities. The Town of Bennington and its Boards of Commissions shall strive to meet in accessible facilities.

Warnings for meetings shall be physically posted at the Town Office, published in local media, published via Town of Bennington social media sites, and Town of Bennington web site announcements.

Agendas and minutes for meetings shall be kept on file and accessible through the Town of Bennington offices and web site. Agendas for Town Select Board, and Boards and Commissions, include the following statement for those seeking accommodations:

We endeavor to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals to engage and participate fully. To request an accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility, please contact Paul Dansereau: pdansereau@benningtonvt.org or call 802-447-9715.

The primary Town of Bennington meeting location is the Bennington Fire House Multi-Use Room. The accessible entrance is located at the Lincoln Street public entrance and an elevator is available to access the 3rd floor Multi-Use Room.

During Town of Bennington meetings, a podium with a microphone will be made available for the public that is located in an accessible location in the Multi-Use Room. A sound system is installed in the Multi-Use Room and shall be used during Select Board meetings as well as large audience meetings.

During Select Board Meetings and special meetings Public Access Television (ie CAT TV) streams the meeting for public access as well as record the meetings to be accessed from the CAT TV web site.

Coordination to provide American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter is conducted for annual Town Meeting.

To improve the accessibility of Town of Bennington Select Board and Special Meetings research shall be conducted on implementing an assisted listening device system. The system may be headphones that are integrated with the Community Room Sound System; or it may be a loop system that would provide coverage for the entire community room space. A goal of implementing this capability is to do so in the next 12 months.

As the Town of Bennington continues to improve and adapt its facilities future public meeting venues shall be developed with technologies to become fully accessible and inclusive.

EMPLOYMENT

All Town of Bennington employment announcements shall be published in local media, published via Town of Bennington social media sites, and published on the Town of Bennington web site.

All employment announcements contain the following statement “Bennington is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE). The Town of Bennington does not discriminate against a qualified individual with a disability in the admission or access to, or treatment, or employment in, its programs or activities. We provide reasonable accommodations in the recruitment and employment of people with disabilities.”

All Town of Bennington Job Descriptions include the following statements:

“Physical Requirements. The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.”

“Work Environment. The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.”

The grievance procedure (included in this document) shall be available to all employees and prospective employees to provide for full participation in the employment practices of the Town.

The Town Manager’s Office is directly responsible for all hiring and employment practices. The Town of Bennington encourages an inclusive hiring practice for all open employment announcements.

*3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022*PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

This section is intended to provide a general outline of programs available, and measures taken to comply with ADA regulations and inclusive principles. As the Town of Bennington continues to conduct capital project improvements and/or acquire new facilities for its Programs and Activities promoting inclusiveness will be a key design criteria or principle.

Town Manager's Office/Human Resources/Finance Department

Currently located on the 2nd floor of the Town Office. Providing an accessible access to the locations is not feasible due to the scope of work, expenses, and historic nature of the Town Office. However, all departments make provisions to use the first floor Conference Room #1 or Conference Room #2 to conduct any business associated with their respective departments. Both Conference Room #1 and Conference Room #2 are fully accessible. By implementing these provisions then individuals are able to achieve reasonable accommodations and receive the services requested.

Communication Coordinator/Community Development/Buildings & Grounds

Currently located on the 3rd floor of the Town Office. Providing an accessible access to the locations is not feasible due to the scope of work, expenses, and historic nature of the Town Office. However, all departments make provisions to use the first floor Conference Room #1 or Conference Room #2 to conduct any business associated with their respective departments. Both Conference Room #1 and Conference Room #2 are fully accessible. By implementing these provisions then individuals are able to achieve reasonable accommodations and receive the services requested.

Town Clerk

Currently located on the 1st floor of the Town Office. All facets of the Town Clerk's Office are available to all individuals. Upon request arrangements may be made to provide information in alternative formats.

Reception/Collections/Assessors/Planning, Permitting, & Code Enforcement

Currently all are located on the 1st floor of the Town Office. All facets of each of these offices are available to all individuals. Upon request arrangements may be made to provide information in alternative formats.

*3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022*Police

The Police Station is a stand-alone facility. An accessible entrance is in the rear of the Police Station and is clearly designated. An elevator is inside the building to enable full access within the facility. The Police Department has implemented provisions and procedures to address all facets of service accessibility for the public as well as arrest procedures for individuals with disabilities.

Senior Center

The Town of Bennington Senior Center is located on the 2nd floor of a building shared with the Meals on Wheels Program. An accessible entrance provides access to the building elevator and provides full access to the Senior Center.

Recreation Center

The Town of Bennington Recreation Center Programs are contracted through the YMCA. All programs and/or activities conducted are open to everyone. Lifeguard staff are trained in the use of lift chairs to enable full access to the pool as well as life saving techniques required in the event of any emergencies.

The weight room has deficiencies in providing adequate clear space in vicinity of the free weights bench press and two exercise stations for someone in a wheel chair to approach and transfer from the wheelchair.

Coordination shall be conducted with the YMCA Director to identify means to improve the current weight room accessibility. Initial review shall be completed in the next six months.

Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works is a stand-alone facility. Entry to the facility is by appointment. An accessible entrance provides access to the reception area and all offices, breaks rooms, restrooms, and conference rooms are fully accessible.

Outdoor Recreation Areas

The Town of Bennington has multiple outdoor recreation areas. All future outdoor recreation area projects, and upgrades to existing outdoor recreation areas, shall include Inclusive Play Design Principles.

3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022

Recently completed new projects, and/or upgrades to existing outdoor recreation areas, included improvements ensure accessibility and greater inclusiveness:

- Stark Street Playground
- Merchant Park/Splashpad
- Willow Park Large and Small Playground: this project is currently ongoing and is anticipated to be complete this year. The scope of work ensured the play structures are fully ADA compliant as well as incorporated Inclusive Play Design Principles.
- Rail Trail Project

Additional outdoor recreation areas which are fully accessible include:

- Willow Park Upper Pavilion: this includes ADA compliant restroom facilities co-located with the pavilion
- Putnam Wetlands

*3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022*ADA GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

The Town of Bennington has adopted an internal grievance procedure providing for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any action prohibited by the United States Department of Justice regulations implementing Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Title II states, in part, that “no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination” in programs or activities sponsored by a public entity.

Complaints should be addressed to the Town Manager who has been designated to coordinate ADA compliance efforts.

- A complaint should be filed in writing or verbally. It should contain the name, address, and contact information for the person filing the complaint as well as a brief description of the alleged violation of the regulations.
- A complaint should be filed within sixty (60) days after the complainant becomes aware of the alleged violation.
- An investigation, as may be appropriate, shall follow a filing of a complaint. The investigation shall be conducted by the Town Manager, or his/her designee such as the Town of Bennington ADA Coordinator. These rules contemplate informal but thorough investigations, affording all interested persons and their representatives, if any, an opportunity to submit evidence relevant to a complaint.
- A written determination as to the validity of the complaint and a description of the resolution, if any, shall be issued by the Town Manager and a copy forwarded to the complainant no later than (60) days after filing.
- The ADA coordinator shall maintain the files and records of the Town of Bennington relating to the complaints filed.
- The complainant may request a reconsideration of the case in instances where he or she is dissatisfied with the resolution. The request for reconsideration should be made within thirty (30) days to the Town Manager.
- The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint filed hereunder shall not be impaired by the person’s pursuit of other remedies such as the filing of an ADA complaint with the responsible federal department or agency. Use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies.
- These rules shall be construed to protect the substantive rights of interested persons to meet appropriate due process standards and to assure that the Town of Bennington complies with ADA and implementing regulations.

*3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022***FACILITY UPGRADES AND/OR IMPROVEMENTS**

The following sections identify specific goals and implementation timelines for Town of Bennington Facility Upgrades and/or Improvements. The goals and implementation guidelines shall be used to assist in annual budget preparations. Due to the extreme volatility of construction costs as well as vendor availability specific costs and execution timelines are not feasible. The implementation guidelines do identify the budget year to implement the goals.

Town Office:

- Accessible Ramp Access: The current accessible ramp provides direct route from the public sidewalk to the Town Office Main Entrance. However, if the Town Office parking lot is used then a person would have a lengthy route from the parking lot designated accessible parking spaces to the ramp.
 - Goal – Conduct a feasibility analysis to develop an additional accessible ramp that may be accessed more directly from the parking lot.
 - Action Person: Director of Facilities.
 - Implementation Guideline: Current Budget Year (FY2023) determine a feasible design, determine any specific historical requirements, and develop rough order magnitude costs for the project. Identify the project as part of FY2024 Budget Development priorities.
- Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations Access:
 - Goal – Implement the 7/21/2022 US Access Board Design Recommendations for Accessible Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.
 - Action Person: Director of Facilities.
 - Implementation Timeline: Current Budget Year (FY2023) assess the impacts of implementing the design requirements and as soon as feasible implement required modifications for the existing Town of Bennington installed EV charging stations.

Recreation Center:

- Free Weights (bench press) and Exercise Stations (two each) Access: The weight room does not provide adequate clear space to enable an individual to approach in a wheelchair and transfer to the equipment.
 - Goal – Meet with the YMCA Director to re-assess the current weight room layout to identify how to improve the approach access and transfer capabilities to the existing equipment.
 - Action Persons: YMCA Director and Director of Facilities
 - Implementation Guideline: Current Budget Year (FY2023) complete the assessment and modify existing layouts.

3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022

- Goal – Incorporate approach access and transfer capabilities in all new designs or expanded Exercise Room facilities.
- Action Persons: YMCA Director and Director of Facilities
- Implementation Guideline: As required incorporate the design and layouts.

Bennington Fire House:

- Automatic Door Openers at Accessible Entrance: The current rear accessible entrance exterior doors are compliant with 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Section 404. However, the door closers require continual maintenance and adjustment to ensure the doors remain in compliance.
 - Goal: Develop rough order of magnitude costs for the installation of automatic door opener at the accessible rear entrance.
 - Action Person: Director of Facilities
 - Implementation Guideline: Current Budget Year (FY2023) solicit proposals and cost estimate to install the automatic door opener. Identify the project as part of FY2024 Budget Development priorities.
- Multi-Use Room Public Meetings: Assisted listening devices such as headphones that tie into the existing sound system, or a loop system that is able to cover the entire meeting space, are required.
 - Goal: Conduct research and analysis to identify the most effective and feasible systems available to provide assisted listening devices and looping.
 - Action Person: Communications Coordinator
 - Implementation Guideline: Current Budget Year (FY2023) complete the analysis and provide recommendations to build into the FY 2024 Budget cycle.
- Goal: Currently the CAT-TV YouTube feed has an option to provide captioning for during public meeting broadcasts, however the CAT-TV live filming is unable to provide captioning.
- Action Person: Communications Coordinator
- Implementation Guideline: Provide updates as CAT-TV live broadcast captioning capabilities change.
- Voting: Continue to use and promote the availability of accessible voting machines and curb-side voting assistance.
 - Action Person: Town Clerk

*3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022***Police Station:**

- Approach & Entrance: Required signage has been emplaced at the rear entrance accessible parking space and entrance. Ensure the designated space remains clear of obstructions.
 - Action Persons: Director of Facilities & Chief of Police
- Procedures for Individuals with Disabilities: Currently there are excellent procedures in place to address the needs of individuals with disabilities. Continue to adapt procedures as required.
 - Action Person: Chief of Police

Senior Center:

- Approach & Entrance: Required signage has been emplaced at the Senior Center accessible parking spaces. Ensure the designated space remains clear of obstructions.
 - Action Persons: Director of Facilities & Senior Center Program Director
- Future Facilities: As studies and assessments are completed on potential new and/or expanded Senior Center Facilities ensure the new spaces are fully compliant and/or exceed access to the programs and activities provided.
 - Action Persons: Director of Facilities & Senior Center Program Director

Sidewalks: Annual sidewalk maintenance is incorporated in the Department of Public Works Budget to be completed during the Summer construction season. This current Budget Year (FY2023) the paver brick sidewalks along North Street to include the sections at the corner of North Street and Main Street were repaired and reset to mitigate trip hazards.

- Goal: Continue to conduct annual sidewalk repair and maintenance.
- Action Person: Director of Public Works
- Implementation Guideline: Continue to assess, prioritize, and commit Budget Resources during each Budget Development Cycle.

Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations Access:

- Goal – Implement the 7/21/2022 US Access Board Design Recommendations for Accessible Electric Vehicle Charging Stations into all new Town of Bennington installed EV charging stations.
- Action Person: Director of Facilities
- Implementation Timeline: As required as new EV charging stations are built into future Budget Years.

3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022

Appendix A – Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) Report 7/13/2022



*People with disabilities working together for dignity, independence, and civil rights
Making Vermont accessible by removing one step at a time!*

July 13, 2022

Jeannie Jenkins, Chair Town of Bennington Select Board
PO Box 469
Bennington, VT 05201

Dear Select Board Members and Paul Dansereau

It was truly a pleasure to meet with all of you (and my VCIL colleagues and peers), on June 29, 2022, to do an assessment of town buildings so that the town's ADA Transition Plan can be updated. From our preliminary video conference meeting it was clear to me that Select Board members are committed to making Bennington as accessible as possible.

Special kudos to Paul Dansereau whose took excellent notes. My reports typically contain very similar content, so not to be redundant, his notes will be included as part of this formal report. Items below should be considered clarifications/addendums to Paul's excellent notes.

I have attached the ADA Checklist for Existing Facilities (all four priorities), the Checklist of Swimming Pools, Wading Pools and Spas and one for Sports Activities, as a resource.

3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022

Recreation Center

Priority 1: Approach & Entrance

- ✓ I am delighted (and amazed) that the issue of accessible parking has already been addressed.

Priority 2: Access to Goods & Services

- The free weights (bench press) and two exercise stations do not have enough clear space for someone in a wheelchair to approach and transfer from their wheelchair. [See checklist of Sports Activities – pg. 7]

Recommendations: This is something that can go in the transition plan as you look to expand the facility.

Bennington Fire House

Priority 2: Access to Goods & Services

Suggestion: It is good to know that the accessible voting machines are being used. I would suggest that the Town Clerk post this sign near the polling stations (see attached picture of sign). The Secretary of State sent these to all Towns several years ago.

- Community Room (public meetings) is required to have assisted listening devices. This could be headphones that tie into the PA system, or a loop system that would cover the whole space. Someone who is Deaf would still require an ASL interpreter.

Recommendations: Research options and include in the updated transition plan. There are no companies in Vermont, but here are two resources I got from the Vermont Assistive Technology Project. [Hearing Loop Systems - an assistive listening technology for hearing loss \(newenglandhearingloop.com\)](#) – these folks have installed loops in Vermont. [Hearing Loops Unlimited | Looping System Installers](#) – these folks have done many churches.

Note: Today captioning is generally referred to simply as captioning. It can be 'closed' or 'open'. Open captioning is generally easier to implement, often with an 'on' or 'off' option.

From the discussion it was clear that during voting, traffic flow and parking are creating safety issues. I agree with Paul's recommendation to develop a traffic control plan, but to be clear, this is not ADA compliance issue.

Police Station

The welcoming and candor of Lieutenant Cam Grande was greatly appreciated. A thorough assessment was efficiently completed.

Priority 1: Approach & Entrance

- As Paul noted, there needs to be a sign at the accessible parking space at the police station, as well as a sign designating the accessible entrance.

Priority 2: Access to Goods & Services

- ✓ Accessibility was excellent. The Bennington Police Department has great alternative for making accessible restrooms available to people in holding cells. It is my understanding that there are special handrails made specifically for holding cells (where a person could not harm themselves). When I find more specific information, I'll send it along.

Town Offices

It was great to see that the town had a *free* EV charging station that was *accessible* (minor improvements would make it more accessible).

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Although the United States Access Board has an initiative to develop accessibility standards for EV charging stations, in partnership with the Department of Transportation, there is no timeline at present.

- Recommendation: Where possible create a parking space using the specifications for an “accessible space” including a 5ft wide access aisle [see Priority 1, page 4]. But do NOT mark it as accessible. This would allow anyone to use it, but it would also be accessible for someone using a wheelchair.

Sidewalks

- ✓ As a person who does not drive, I do a lot of walking and the sidewalks in town were in very good to excellent condition. The only minor issue I saw was at the corner of Main and North streets there is an area of brick (instead of cement). A few of these were missing. This would create hazards for people using canes and if hit the wrong way could break the wheel of a wheelchair.

Town Garage

This facility was not visited, but I want to point out that if there are services to the public – such as picking up sand and salt in the winter – then the ADA guidelines would apply here as well.

Updating the Transition Plan

In developing an updated plan, I would recommend that you make it more comprehensive than the previous one. I would also include long range ‘visionary’ ideas too. There was discussion of using the old school building to house the Senior Center (with an accessible kitchen), Meals Program and offices for the Council on Aging all under one roof. The timeline could be 3-5 years. The text of the document wouldn’t necessarily have to be lengthy. The plan could include a table specifying the specific elements to

3rd DRAFT – Prepared 10/4/2022

be improved, the estimated cost, the time line and who is responsible, and finally a date completed.

This is a good way to keep track of the 'smaller' items, such as automatic door openers. Once an inventory is taken of which door should have them, then they can be prioritized, based on foot traffic or other criteria. This will also become a tool for the Select Board in yearly budget planning.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions

Sincerely,

Peter Johnke (he/him)

Deputy Director

Vermont Center For Independent Living

11 East State Street

Montpelier, VT 05602

802-224-1815 (Direct)

800-639-1522 (Toll Free)

802-229-0503 (Fax)

www.vcil.org

This information is provided with support from New England ADA Center from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR), and is for technical assistance purposes and should not be interpreted as legal advice.



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**Appendix B – Americans with Disabilities Act Facilities Audit Visit Notes
6/29/2022**

Americans with Disabilities Act Facilities Audit Visit Notes

Prepared By: Paul T. Dansereau 6/29/2022

1. Purpose: The Town of Bennington is conducting an audit and update to its Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan that was adopted on July 11, 1995. As part of this audit assistance was requested from the Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) to review the previous plan, visit the Town Facilities, identify any facilities that are non-complaint, and provide recommendations on additional improvements to the Town of Bennington Public Facilities.
2. On Wednesday June 29, 2022 a site visit was conducted at the following Town of Bennington Facilities:
 - a. Town of Bennington Recreation Center
 - b. Town of Bennington Fire Station
 - c. Town of Bennington Police Department
 - d. Town of Bennington Town Office
 - e. Town of Bennington Senior Center
3. Participants in the site visit included:
 - a. Peter Johnke, Deputy Director VCIL
 - b. Colleen Arcodia, VCIL
 - c. Harrie Hyatt
 - d. Jeannie Jenkins, Chair Town of Bennington Select Board
 - e. Jean Connor, Town of Bennington Select Board Member
 - f. Tom Haley, Town of Bennington Select Board Member
 - g. Paul Dansereau, Director of Facilities/Building Inspector/Fire Marshal, Town of Bennington
4. Specific Notes from each location:
 - a. Recreation Center:
 - i. Accessible Parking spots currently are not located at the shortest distance to the newly constructed main entrance.
Action Item – Designate new Accessible Parking spots at the shortest/most direct route from the parking lot to the new main accessible entrance. The Van Accessible and other Accessible Parking spots may also remain where they are located.

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- ii. The concrete ramp at the newly constructed main entrance from the parking lot curb cut to the entrance door is 7% grade. If a ramp is greater than 5% grade then a railing is required to be placed on both sides of the ramp.

Action Item – Confirm with Architects to identify the specifications for this ramp and follow-up on Courses of Action options to remediate either the ramp grade or install compliant handrails.

- iii. Entrance vestibule and hallway floor mats are compliant with ADA specifications.

Recommendation – Consider purchase additional mats or different sized mats to provide area coverage that is equivalent in width to the double doors to further reduce potential of trip hazards.

- iv. The water bottle filling station & fountain in the Weight Room protrudes more than 4 inches from the wall. A sight impaired person would not have an indicator the fountain was there.

Action Item – Place a decorative item (ie potted plant (real or artificial or similar item) on the floor just prior to the base of the fountain to provide an indicator there is an obstruction.

- v. The free weights and two stations on the nautilus machines are accessible.

Recommendation: As the Town of Bennington develops long range plans for additional facility improvements research and develop plans to expand accessible fitness equipment.

- vi. The pool area has a transfer lift station as well as 36 inch wide entry steps with railings at the shallow end of the pool. During the visit a life guard mentioned the lift was not working.

Action Item – Later in the day the Bennington Branch Director of the YMCA was contacted and stated that monthly checks are performed by the YMCA Staff on the Transfer Lift and it would be investigated. Follow-up on the status of the Transfer Lift.

b. Bennington Fire House

- i. The entrance doors to firehouse from the parking lot side close in 3 to 3.5 seconds. The door swing should close no faster than 5 seconds.

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Action Item: Adjust the door closers so the doors swing is no faster than 5 seconds to close per door.

- ii. A review of the Community Room Space used for public meetings was reviewed. Discussion included assisted listening devices were not used during public meetings, Annual Town Meetings a sign language interpreter is used, if requested a sign language interpreter may be made available at public meetings, CAT TV broadcast of public meetings does not provide a closed captioning capability, and there is a Facebook feed option to view public meeting coverage that does provide closed captioning and the Town of Bennington Communication Director is able to provide description on how to access this capability.

Recommendations: Continue to review processes and procedures and technology capabilities available.

- iii. Discussion on voting processes and procedures included if voting stations and signage for visually impaired were available and used during elections. The answer was not known at the time of the audit visit.

Recommendation: Following the audit visit it was confirmed with the Town Clerk that voting stations for the visually impaired were on hand and used during all State and Federal Elections.

- iv. The 2nd floor conference room used by the Select Board for interviews was reviewed and the conference room table does not have adequate clearance under the table to enable wheel chair access.

Recommendation: Be prepared to make accommodations to raise the conference room table height by placing blocks under the table. Additionally review Town of Bennington Public Interview announcements regarding requests for accommodations.

- v. Traffic flow into the Firehouse Parking Lot was discussed by Board Members.

Action Item: Develop traffic control plan to improve safety.

- c. Police Station: Lieutenant Cam Grande Facilitated the Police Station portion of the visit. His thoroughness and professionalism were greatly appreciated.

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- i. The Accessible Parking Space at the rear of the Police Station is marked on the pavement, however it lacks a designated parking sign.

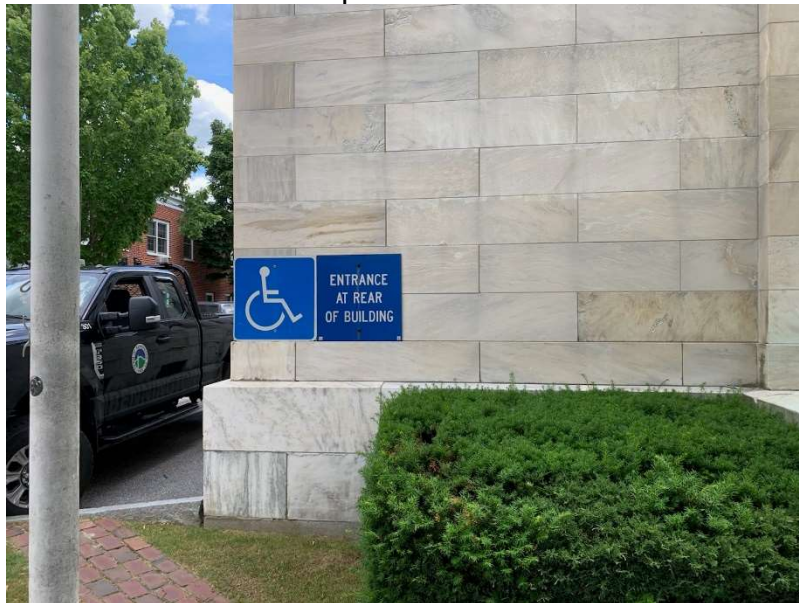
Action Item: Install a designated accessible parking sign.

- ii. The rear exterior accessible entrance door to the police station lacks an Accessible Entrance sign.

Action Item: Install a designated accessible entrance sign.

- iii. Discussion during the visit included if the front of the police station had signage directing people to the rear accessible entrance. After the visit it was verified the front of the Police Station does have a large sign indicating the accessible entrance was at the rear of the police station.

No Additional Action required.



d. Town Office

- i. Conference Room #2 table does not provide adequate clearance for wheelchair access.

Action Item: Be prepared to make accommodations to raise the conference room table height by placing blocks under the table and consider. Pursue options to modify the conference room table.

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- ii. Conference Room #1 table does provide adequate clearance for wheelchair access.

No additional action required.

- iii. Providing accessible access to Electric Vehicle Charging stations was discussed. Specific standards are still in development. The Town of Bennington EV charging station located at the Town Office is accessible.

Recommendation: Provide small extension of the parking lot pavement up to the wood guard rail at the Town Office EV charging station.

Additionally, as the Town of Bennington continues to install EV charging stations on Town owned facilities ensure to design the stations with accessible access.

e. Senior Center:

- i. The Accessible Parking Spaces at the Senior Center are marked on the pavement, however they lack a designated parking signs.

Action Item: Install a designated accessible parking signs.

- ii. The meals on wheel public restrooms are ADA compliant, however the restroom doors lack appropriate signage to identify the restrooms.

Action Item: Install appropriate signage on the restrooms.

- iii. The Senior Center large room/kitchen area does enable accessible access countertops and appliances.

Recommendation: As the Town of Bennington develops plans for Senior Center improvements and/or developments, incorporate accessible access kitchen areas in designs.

5. General Notes and/or Observations:

- a. All accessible access doors were checked for compliance with ADA standards and unless noted above were found in compliance. Additionally continue to identify and build into facility budgets the installations of automatic door openers.

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- b. Peter Johnke commented the Town of Bennington sidewalks were in excellent condition.
- 6. Next Steps:
 - a. Update the Town of Bennington ADA self-audit and Transition Plan
 - b. Review the VCIL prepared report/notes from the visit when they are available.
 - c. Initiate action items and recommendations identified above.

MANAGER'S REPORT
October 10, 2022

ACTION

Nothing at this time.

INFORMATIONAL

Benmont Ave/ County Street Sewer Line Replacement Casella is in Town, stockpiling material and working on readiness for the project. They have indicated confidence in completion of the Benmont section before winter.

Franklin Lane Pedestrian Improvement Project This project is moving along. Buildings on either side are served by gas so extra care has been taken while replacing the subbase. Once this is finished, the project should move even faster.

Distribution of COVID Test Kits Distribution of the 220 test kits has been completed. We have reached out to the Department of Health to see if we can obtain more kits. We will once again make them available at various municipal buildings if we can obtain them.

Tax Sales Tax sales for this year are planned for October 31. We are down to 11 properties that may go to sale. Our goal remains to clear the delinquency or get a signed payment plan in place.

FOLLOW UP

The Community Development and Permitting/Planning Reports are attached.
The Chief and Lieutenant will be presenting to the Board at this meeting.

Recreation:

a. YMCA program planning:

The Bennington Community Center (Rec Center) pool drains were replaced, and the pool is now reopened. New exercise equipment is available in the weight room, and a strength and conditioning room has opened up in the basement. YMCA afterschool programs and fall youth and adult sports and fitness programs have begun. Programs and classes are scheduled at the Rec Center and at the Bennington Sports Center (former Catamount school). The pool, adult fitness, and youth program schedules are updated regularly on the Bennington Recreation center Facebook page and on the town's website.

b. Bennington Outdoor Recreation Collaborative:

The Town of Bennington received a \$10,000 grant from the Vermont Community Foundation to support outdoor recreation with wayfinding signs, photography, graphic design, and print media. Jonah Spivak redesigned the Town's recreation page to highlight more outdoor recreation opportunities and partners. GVH studio is completing the wayfinding signs and they will be installed by the Town's Highway Department this fall.

c. Appalachian Trail Community designation:

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy officially designated Bennington as an Appalachian Trail Community, which puts Bennington on the map for their marketing and promotion to AT hikers. I am on the advisory committee for the Bennington AT Community, and we held the first annual "Trail Fest" event at the Bennington Community Center on July 30 for both locals and AT hikers. It was a very successful event with over 200 attending and at least 60 were AT hikers.

e. Recreational Facilities and Animating Infrastructure Grant:

The Town of Bennington received a Recreation Facilities grant from the State of Vermont to add fencing around the green space next to the Morgan Springs water facility at Memorial Park (Rec Center). This is a sizable green space that will be used for youth programming, outdoor exercise classes, and community picnics. The new fencing is installed in the green space and the YMCA staff are using the space for youth and family programming. An Animating Infrastructure grant from the Vermont Arts Council is supporting art installations along the fence, such as creative benches and gates, collaborating with local artists and designers through the Vermont Arts Exchange. We are also working with a local landscape designer for ideas on landscaping the area. These installations will be completed in the fall.

f. Trolley line path:

I am on the advisory committee for the Trolley Line path scoping study that is led by Cat Bryars and Mark Anders of BCRC. This study examines the feasibility of converting the abandoned electric trolley car bed in Southwestern Vermont into a 14-mile shared-use

path for pedestrians and cyclists traveling between Bennington and Pownal, VT and Williamstown, MA.

g. Willow Park play structure upgrade:

I am on the working group with Paul Dansereau, Mark Sawyer, and Jonah Spivak. We reviewed the proposals that responded to the RFP and selected Play by Design to lead the project. Play By Design removed the old play structures and the new play structures have been installed but some modifications are needed before the park can reopen.

Vermont Begins Here:

Eight Oh Two Marketing is continuing the digital marketing campaign to promote Bennington. We are running Facebook ads to promote fall travel to Bennington. The VBH blog post for October promoted fall events, the reopening of the Apple Barn, and the new Island Flavors restaurant downtown.

Local Food Security:

I meet quarterly with the Southern Vermont Regional Food Network, which promotes a stronger regional network for sustainable local agriculture and community food security.

The downtown market advisory group developed out of the SVRFN and is focused on a downtown market that supports local farms and food producers and supplies fresh produce to downtown Bennington. They have formed a nonprofit, the Bennington Community Market, and the market will be located at 239 Main Street. The market received a town loan of \$200,000 to begin construction on a commercial kitchen at the market space and was awarded a \$35,000 grant from the Citizens for Greater Bennington. They have a website- <https://www.benningtonmarket.com> and have launched a social media campaign and fundraising campaign. The market also recently received their 501c3 status from the IRS as a non-profit organization. Construction is almost complete on the space and the market's board hired a new general manager who is preparing the market for opening before Thanksgiving. The Carpenter Group LLC is the general contractor working on the building renovation and kitchen construction.

Community Development Block Grants:

The Berkshire Family YMCA, UCS Head Start, and Sunrise Family Resource Center received VCDP grants to support Covid-19 related expenses and HVAC upgrades. The Town also received a VCDP grant of \$500,000 to support the Shire Housing Bennington Family Housing project at 300 Pleasant Street. I submit paperwork required for each grant agreement and subgrant agreement along with progress reports. Shires Housing has received VCDP funding for two recovery housing projects and Hale Resources received additional funding for the affordable housing development at 219 Pleasant Street. Neighborworks presented their final public hearing about the CDBG funded Rental Rehab program in Bennington at the Select Board meeting on September 26.

Historic Preservation Grants:

I worked with GVH Studio on a history/recreation/arts and culture panels for a new downtown kiosk funded with an historic preservation (CLG program) grant. The kiosk was recently installed in the green space at the back entrance to the Putnam block. I also submitted another historic preservation grant in

Community Development Report: October 4, 2022

Shannon Barsotti

partnership with Bennington College to put the college campus on the National Register of Historic Places, and we were awarded this \$5,000 grant.

Franklin Lane Improvement Project:

The Town's Highway Department has finished excavation at the site and is preparing the site for pavers and paving. These improvements will promote pedestrian safety by adding pavers to slow traffic and additional lighting. This project is funded with a \$50,000 Downtown Transportation Fund grant.

Benn Hi Redevelopment Team:

I am on the team with other town staff Dan Monks, Mark Sawyer, and Paul Dansereau and we are meeting weekly to plan the redevelopment. Paul created RFPs for a design professional and a construction manager for the project, and the town has hired Goldstone Architecture to create conceptual plans and Engelberth Construction to do a cost estimate on the project. I organized meetings with Jeff Goldstone and our partners at the Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, and the Berkshire Family YMCA for their input on program design and Jeff also attended a meeting with seniors at the Senior Center to review the conceptual plans for the community spaces at Benn Hi. The Town recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Hale Resources, a private local housing developer, to work on a plan for creating housing at Benn Hi. I am researching grants to help support the redevelopment of the building and identifying partners for the community spaces.

Walloomsac Riverwalk Pathway:

The town received a \$200,000 Downtown Transportation Fund grant for the redevelopment of the Walloomsac Riverwalk Pathway, which will include widening the path to allow for both pedestrians and cyclists, connecting it to the new rail trail, and adding new lighting and other amenities.

Town website redesign project team:

I met with Jonah Spivak to review the proposals submitted for the Town's website redesign and interviewed final candidates. The web developer Revize was awarded the contract for the Town's website and is working on the redesign.

Downtown events:

I joined the Better Bennington Corporation's promotion committee to assist with downtown events at the Thomson stage this summer. The BBC managed a summer music series called "Thursday Night Live" using the stage and splash pad park. The BBC launched a crowdfunding campaign for the series and exceeded their goal of \$5,000, which was matched with a \$10,000 Better Places grant from the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development. I will also be volunteering at the BBC's Harvest Fest event on October 15.

Vermont Council on Rural Development

VCRD asked me to join their board as a local government representative and I will attend their board meeting on September 28.

Community Development Report: October 4, 2022

Shannon Barsotti

Community Outreach:

In the past month, I have met with the Berkshire Family YMCA management team, the Bennington Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, Shires Housing, Hale Resources, Eight Oh Two Marketing, Historic Preservation Commission, Bennington Community Market, Bennington College, Vermont Arts Exchange, Goldstone Architecture, Better Bennington Corporation, AT Community Committee, Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, UVM Extension, Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, Agency for Commerce and Community Development, the SVSU, and the Vermont Council on Rural Development.

**12-Years At a Glance
Permit Totals Only**

Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	6	12	11	5	8	15	10	5	6	5	11	15
February	7	7	6	7	15	8	5	7	5	8	9	10
March	6	31	13	12	10	14	19	11	13	9	19	22
April	34	31	18	22	27	14	15	15	23	11	29	33
May	27	27	38	20	23	19	27	23	24	19	23	29
June	34	32	20	19	21	19	10	14	12	25	16	21
July	20	24	33	29	47	16	29	30	28	12	16	20
August	14	30	21	29	20	18	25	25	16	27	16	28
September	15	21	32	27	22	21	21	23	26	9	14	23
October	19	38	30	21	28	9	19	20	20	17	29	
November	22	10	16	11	12	8	16	11	8	15	19	
December	17	18	18	7	10	5	8	11	11	5	10	
Total	221	281	256	209	243	166	204	195	192	162	211	

09/30/2022

01:04 pm

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning

Detailed Permit Report

Page 1

bgallant

Permit types included: Building

Approval status included: Granted

Occupancy status included: Any status

Decision dates included: Between 09/01/2022 and 09/30/2022

<i>Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages</i>	<i>Permit number</i>	<i>Owner's name Applicant's name Location</i>	<i>Permit type Cert. of Occ.</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Fee paid Cost of project</i>
22500401	22-119	BENNINGTON COLLEGE CORP Rain or Shine Tent Co Inc 1 COLLEGE RD Install (1) 80x170 Eureka Tent,(2) 30x40 Fred's Frame	Building C.O. Not required	Granted 09/02/2022	50.00 18,000.00
36501400	22-120	MONUMENT HOLDINGS LLC Silver Therapeutics Of Bennington, LLC 201 NORTHSIDE DR Interior Renovation (1,567 Sq-Ft) For Dispensary	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/07/2022	313.40 65,000.00
50522700	22-121	113-115 ADAMS STREET LLC Gary & Brenda Jones 113 -115 ADAMS ST Change Of Use: Renovating/Converting Barber Shop	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/12/2022	50.00 2,500.00
17501704	22-122	TOOMEY BRIAN Brian Toomey 1860 HARWOOD HILL RD Renovate Existing Deck To Make A 3-Season	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/12/2022	35.00 1,000.00
50517100	22-123	RGN BENNINGTON HOLDINGS LLC Southwestern Vermont Chamber of 113 DEPOT ST Install 8 Temporary Tents (4) 10x20 & (4) 20x30 For 1	Building C.O. Not required	Granted 09/02/2022	35.00 4,655.00
03010300	22-124	BAER ANDREW & DORCAS Andrew & Dorcas Baer 2915 CHAPEL RD Remodel Existing Lean-To Into A 405 Sq-Ft Living	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/12/2022	80.75 25,000.00
19501400	22-125	GREEN MOUNTAIN MENNONITE Andy Baer 2892 CHAPEL RD Construct A 400 Sq-Ft Addition (New Entrance)	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/16/2022	230.00 31,400.00
11012601	22-126	JOWETT DOUGLAS M & ASHLEY B Douglas & Ashley Jowett 1524 US RT 7 SO Construct A 12x16 Shed	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/16/2022	35.00 2,000.00
43513100	22-127	RAAB HEATHER Power Guru LLC 139 CONVENT AV Install Tesla Battery Storage	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/16/2022	25.00 5,000.00

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning

Detailed Permit Report

Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages	Permit number	Owner's name Applicant's name Location	Permit type Cert. of Occ.	Decision	Fee paid Cost of project
11013900	22-128	MCLLENITHAN SHIRLEY R LIFE ESTATE Shirley McLenithan 1395 US RT 7 SO Construct A 20x40 (800 Sq-Ft) Pole Barn	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/19/2022	120.00 4,000.00
58500100	22-129	HARWOOD ASHLEY J Justin Cyr 106 RUTTER RD Construct A 16x26 Storage Shed	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/19/2022	144.80 3,500.00
07015802	22-130	BENNINGTON K OF C HOME Richard Burdick Jr 2964 WEST RD Change of Use: Convert Restaurant/Upstairs	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/19/2022	130.00 863.00
53504800	22-131	SULLIVAN HARRIET R Sunrun Installation Services LLC 93 EARL'S DR Install Solar Panels (580 Sq-Ft)	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/26/2022	25.00 24,000.00
25500900	22-132	SANTACROSS ORESTE A & JOYCE A Oreste & Joyce Santacross 1048 HOUGHTON LN Construct A 16x17 (272 Sq-Ft) Addition For A Den	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/26/2022	35.00 65,000.00
36502502	22-133	LYONS PATRICIA D REVOCABLE TRUST Stephen Rucinski 147 NORTHSIDE DR Renovate Building To Make It A Automotive Detail (2,051 Sq-Ft)	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/23/2022	410.20 20,000.00
56536000	22-134	ROY RICHARD & MARYBETH Richard & Marybeth Roy 120 PINE CIRCLE Interior Renovations (Kitchen, Bathroom, etc..) & New	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/26/2022	50.00 25,000.00
65501901	22-135	MARCEAU DYLAN Dylan Marceau 1126 MIDDLE POWNAL RD Construct A Single-Family Dwelling (1,260 Sq-Ft)	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 09/26/2022	229.00 50,000.00

09/30/2022

01:05 pm

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning
Detailed Permit Report

Page 1
bgallant

Permit types included: Sign

Approval status included: Granted

Occupancy status included: Any status

Decision dates included: Between 09/01/2022 and 09/30/2022

Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages	Permit number	Owner's name Applicant's name Location	Permit type Cert. of Occ.	Decision	Fee paid Cost of project
50543000	S22-024	CATAMOUNT ACCESS TELEVISION Catamount Access Television Corp 625 MAIN ST CAT - TV	Sign C.O. Not required	Granted 09/12/2022	20.00 3,000.00

09/30/2022

01:05 pm

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning
Detailed Permit Report

Page 1
bgallant

Permit types included: Subdivision

Approval status included: Granted

Occupancy status included: Any status

Decision dates included: Between 09/01/2022 and 09/30/2022

Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages	Permit number	Owner's name Applicant's name Location	Permit type Cert. of Occ.	Decision	Fee paid Cost of project
48514600	22-136	WASSICK DONALD A & KIMALIE M Donald & Kimalie Wassick FOX HILL RD 2-Lot Boundary Line Adjustment: Parcel 48-51-39 To	Subdivision C.O. Not required	Granted 09/23/2022	50.00

Combined With Parcel 48-51-46

09/30/2022

01:05 pm

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning

Detailed Permit Report

Page 1
bgallant

Permit types included: Fire Suppression

Approval status included: Granted

Occupancy status included: Any status

Decision dates included: Between 09/01/2022 and 09/30/2022

<i>Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages</i>	<i>Permit number</i>	<i>Owner's name Applicant's name Location</i>	<i>Permit type Cert. of Occ.</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Fee paid Cost of project</i>
50572500	F22-015	VERMONT REALTY LLC GSS Fire Extinguishers, LLC 239 MAIN ST Install A Used Amerex Fire Suppression System In A Hood	Fire Suppression C.O. Pending	Granted 09/14/2022	50.00
56507500	F22-017	TUMBLEHOME LLC GSS Fire Extinguishers, LLC 511 SOUTH ST Install New Ansul Fire Suppression System	Fire Suppression C.O. Pending	Granted 09/26/2022	50.00

09/30/2022

01:05 pm

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning

Detailed Permit Report

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bgallant

Permit types included: Exhaust Hood

Approval status included: Granted

Occupancy status included: Any status

Decision dates included: Between 09/01/2022 and 09/30/2022

<i>Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages</i>	<i>Permit number</i>	<i>Owner's name Applicant's name Location</i>	<i>Permit type Cert. of Occ.</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Fee paid Cost of project</i>
50572500	F22-016	VERMONT REALTY LLC GSS Fire Extinguishers, LLC 239 MAIN ST Install A Used Hood (Purchased By Owner) - Updated	Exhaust Hood C.O. Pending Supply & Exhaust	Granted	09/14/2022 80.00
56507500	F22-018	TUMBLEHOME LLC GSS Fire Extinguishers, LLC 511 SOUTH ST Install Used Hood (Customer Owned) Up Against	Exhaust Hood C.O. Pending Constructed Wall	Granted	09/26/2022 80.00

**Summary of Building Permits Issued
September 2022**

Construction Type	Month to date	Month to Date Volume	Year to date	Year to Date Volume
	Permit Totals		Permit Totals	
Single Family Dwelling	1	\$50,000.00	4	\$1,225,000.00
Duplex	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Mobile Homes	0	\$0.00	3	\$321,100.00
Apartments	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Apartment Renovations	1	\$2,500.00	8	\$272,400.00
Condominiums	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Residential Renovations	2	\$25,863.00	17	\$898,859.00
Residential Additions	2	\$90,000.00	7	\$903,800.14
Commercial Construction	0	\$0.00	4	\$2,195,000.00
Commercial Renovations	3	\$106,400.00	15	\$2,431,908.00
Industrial Construction	0	\$0.00	1	\$608,898.00
Industrial Renovations	0	\$0.00	3	\$72,900.00
Garages	1	\$4,000.00	9	\$203,600.00
Sheds	2	\$5,500.00	12	\$53,479.00
Decks	1	\$1,000.00	11	\$97,250.00
Institutions	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Signs	1	\$3,000.00	24	\$90,411.00
Use & Zoning	0	\$0.00	11	\$31,317,500.00
Subdivision	1	\$0.00	4	\$0.00
Home Occupation	0	\$0.00	1	\$0.00
Propane Tank/Storage Tank	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Boilers/Furnaces/RTU's, A/C	0	\$0.00	6	\$97,050.00
Tents	2	\$22,655.00	6	\$25,605.00
Handicap Access/Ramps	0	\$0.00	2	\$13,500.00
Concreate Slabs	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Cell Towers/Communications	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Solar Installations	2	\$29,000.00	11	\$403,294.25
Camps	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Withdrawn	0	\$0.00	2	\$0.00
Demolition	0	\$0.00	19	\$0.00
Fire Supression	2	\$0.00	6	\$0.00
Sprinkler System	0	\$0.00	4	\$0.00
Exhaust Hood	2	\$0.00	2	\$0.00
Fire Alarm	0	\$0.00	9	\$0.00
Total	23	\$339,918.00	201	\$41,231,554.39