

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Pittsfield Planning Board**  
**October 9, 2012**

The Pittsfield Planning Board met on Monday, October 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Pittsfield Municipal Building to consider the following agenda.

**PRESENT:** Royce Sposato, Walter Reuter, Fred Raynes, Kelly Flanigan and Alan Dunphy.

**ABSENT:** Jack Wright, Chris Cookson, and Brent Newhouse. **Also Present:** Town Manager Kathryn Ruth, Building Inspector Steve Seekins, Chris Huck of KVCOG, Holly Zadra and Vaughan Woodruff.

1. Chairman **Alan Dunphy** opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
2. Motion by **Kelley Flanigan** and seconded by **Walter Reuter** to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of September 9, 2012.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

3. **PUBLIC HEARING: NONE**
4. **OLD BUSINESS/DISCUSSION:**

a. Comprehensive Plan work session:

- 1) Discussion of the results from the public input meeting of 9-29-12

**Alan Dunphy** led the discussion on the above. See the attached PITTSFIELD TOMORROW: A VISION FOR THE FUTURE dated 10-9-12 Planning Board Meeting Update. The agreed on changes made by the planning board to this document are shown in underlined italics on the document. Also the attached Pittsfield "Focus" compiled as a summary of the 9-29-12 meeting by Chris Huck of KVCOG was discussed in detail with revisions noted.

Chris Huck of KVCOG passed out "II: Community Assessment" parts One to Ten Drafts to be reviewed by the Planning Board Members for the next meeting.

5. **NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION: NONE**

6. **Adjournment:**

Motion by **Fred Raynes** and seconded by **Walter Reuter** that the meeting be adjourned at 8:54 pm.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**Respectfully submitted by**

Steve Seekins, Building Inspector  
Kathryn Ruth, Town Manager

# Pittsfield “Focus” (as discussed at Planning Board meeting with revisions and comments)

## Favorite Places:

Trails through town, including bike and walking trails

Pinnacle

Boat Access (Portage) – Douglas Pond

~~Bike and walking trails~~

Recreation pavilion, ~~and dock~~ and access into lagoon (Mill Pond?) off along the Sebasticook River

~~Access to river~~

Where kids meet and eat (near Mill Pond and Hartland Ave). (Meeting location for kids)

Downtown Parks and green spots

Community center

Downtown

~~Trash cleanup on trail~~ (Trail by railroad tracks which needs trash cleanup)

Manson Park

MCI campus

Small/organic farms (Phillips Corner Road)

Eagles nest and turtles on Sebasticook River

## Vision Statement Comments:

Add “healthy” to first statement; Add “worship” to first statement; add “and raise children” to first statement.

Add “places of worship” to statement on diverse recreational and cultural opportunities.

Add statement about how we have friendly and helpful neighbors.

Add statement about how young people should want to return to town.

Add that students should have the opportunity (be encouraged?) to participate in public affairs.

Add good management of solid waste facility.

Note: The Planning Board made several changes to the Vision Statement which are reflected in the attachment to the minutes.

## Flip Chart Comments (Arranged by topic, not necessarily in the order presented)

### **Downtown:**

Prioritize over other areas for new business – avoid strip development

Adequate and visible parking lots (Replace with more modern signage)

- Beautify Parking area

- Improve rear facades of Main Street businesses

Somerset Ave.:

- Traffic calming measures,

- crosswalk safety,

- speed enforcement

### Sidewalks and Bikes:

- Sidewalk location (esplanade/green space from road)
- Additional bike racks or make them more convenient

Form a "Heart of Pittsfield" committee

Public restrooms

Add activities or services after 6 PM

### Promote Business and the Economy:

Ideas for new business: coffee shop/bakery (downtown), hardware store, bed and breakfast

Promote local foods for community events, facilities

"Buy Pittsfield" to support local businesses, e.g. community market

~~Increase job opportunities for teens~~

Survey businesses on supplementary needs (training, infrastructure)

Update Upgrade town website (*comment that it appears busy due to the historical archives*)

Recreation business by water (*if feasible given customer base*)

### Trails:

Improve and promote trails along the old rail bed.

Clean up trails and reduce loitering (teens)

Trail connections through private land. Extend Pinnacle trail to connect to rail bed on north

Need a portage around dam

### Parks and Recreation:

Map and Guide for recreation sites

Have a place for kids to go

More frequent events in Hathorn Park

Refurbish the gazebo

Spraying on public park lawns (reduce or inform people) (Manson Park)

Canoe/kayak rental and launch area

Dog park

Community garden

Improve town farm and access to open space

### Land Use Issues:

~~Current public works department is prime location for new residential~~ (Very expensive to relocate.)

Public works area would need a formal assessment for ability to be used for residential)

Need more small houses on cul-de-sacs

### Unclassifiable:

Promote energy upgrades for older homes

School food/nutrition programs