

**Becket Planning Board  
Approved Meeting Minutes  
September 11th , 2013**

Planning Board Members Present: Robert Ronzio ( Chairperson), Ann Krawet, Howard Lerner (Alternate), Martin Schlanger (Clerk), Beth VanNess ( Asst. Clerk).

Planning Board Members Absent: Gale LaBelle.

Members of the public present: None

Meeting opens at: 7: 01 pm

Chairperson , Robert Ronzio, opens the meeting and announces that agendas are on the table for anyone who wants them. He advises that the meeting is being held in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40A and the By-laws of the Town of Becket. A decision to issue a special permit requires a minimum of four positive votes from a five member board. The board has 90 days to make a decision after the close of a public hearing and 14 days to file paperwork with the Town Clerk once a decision is made. Any Appeals of decisions can be made only to the court and must be made pursuant to Section 17, MGL 40A as amended, and must be filed within 20 days after the date of filing of the decision with the Town Clerk. Mr. Ronzio asks if there is anyone who is going to make a video or an audio recording of the meeting; no recordings are announced. Lastly Mr. Ronzio informs everyone present that no person shall address this meeting without the permission of the chair and that all people, at the request of the chair shall be silent. Mr. Ronzio advises all present that it is the intention of this board to proceed with the posted agenda in the order in which they are listed, and again reminds everyone that agendas are on the table for anyone who wants one.

Mr. Ronzio informs all present of the Open Meeting Law, as he reads it aloud.

Approval of August 14th , 2013 Meeting Minutes- Mr. Schlanger makes a motion to approve the August meeting minutes as presented, Mr. Lerner seconds motion; Unanimous Approval.

Public Participation- None

New Business- Medical Marijuana Discussion.

Mr. Robert Ronzio advises Planning Board members that he did speak with an individual from the Berkshire Eagle regarding the medical marijuana issue. Mr. Ronzio explains that he did invite the individual to attend this evening's meeting, however he is not present. Board members discuss the idea of writing a bylaw in the near future. Mr. Schlanger advises that he knows of three companies that have already applied to the state, Mr. Ronzio confirms. Ms. Krawet states that if there was a restrictive law on the books, it would strongly discourage applicants. Mr. Ronzio advises that the first step will be to solicit input from the Townspeople. He further offers

to put together an announcement, inviting the public , as well as the Board of Health to hold a joint meeting and then to go from there. Mr. Schlanger reminds the board members that they should also ask the Board of Selectmen to attend as well.

Old Business- Large Wind Turbine Sub-Committee.

Ms. Krawet gives a brief report on the progress of the committee thus far. She informs Board members that the Sub-Committee has scheduled their final meeting to be held on October 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. She informs the Board that they will be discussing *multiple turbines* . Ms. Krawet explains that it is their intention to then have a recommendation to present to the Planning Board, that Wednesday October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Krawet also brings to the discussion the small wind turbine bylaw, expressing great concern for the current bylaw that is in place. Ms. Krawet advises that she worries that the bylaw is not restrictive enough as far as distance, decibels, etc. Ms, Krawet advises that maybe the setback distances should be equalized, board members discuss. Mr. Lerner asks if this will need to go to Town Meeting; Mr. Ronzio confirms that it will. Board members discuss that there is still such limited information out and that as more studies and research surface it may be easier to make an informed decision.

Lastly , Mr. Ronzio advises that the Board needs to discuss and prioritize which bylaws they want to address.

Correspondence- All correspondence read and reviewed.

Budget- Read and reviewed.

Any other business to come before the board-

Board members briefly discuss an upcoming BRPC meeting to be held at the Pittsfield Country Club on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October. Board members interested in attending briefly discuss the topic as well as the costs involved. Mr. Lerner makes a motion for the Planning Board to allow 3 board members, as well as the board secretary to attend the BRPC dinner-meeting and the cost will be paid by the Planning Board. Ms. VanNess seconds motion; Unanimous Approval.

Ms. Krawet brings up the discussion of the possible application previously discussed regarding Jack Conboy's property and the earlier submission of a special permit application that was withdrawn by the petitioner. Board members agree that a letter of response needs to be drafted and sent to the Conboys in response to their request made to the Planning Board for some specifications that the Board would expect to see in the case that the Conboy's decide to submit a new application for a gas station proposal. Ms. Krawet states that she would like to make sure that the Planning Board has the opportunity to read and review any such letter that is written before it can be sent to the Applicants.

Ms. VanNess makes a motion to adjourn, Mr. Schlanger seconds motion; Meeting is adjourned at 8:20.

Schedule next meeting for Wednesday November 13th, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Hunt  
Administrative Assistant

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Ronzio

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Howard Lerner

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Beth VanNess

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Martin Schlanger

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Ann Krawet