

BELLINGHAM PLANNING BOARD  
UPPER TOWN HALL  
BELLINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Regular Meeting of October 13, 1977

Members Present: John P. Murray, Chairman  
Gerald R. Brisson  
James E. Hart

Chairman Murray opened the meeting at 8:00 P.M.

On a Hart-Brisson motion the following bills were unanimously approved for payment:

Philip B. Herr & Assoc.	7/1/77 to 9/30/77 services...	\$900.00	Acct 1-71
" " " " "	Zoning Maps (300).....	\$ 44.40	" 1-70

William Brennan, 3 Granite Street presented a plan of two lots on the corner of Farm and Granite Street. 1.7 acres are located in Medway, and 11.3 acres located in Bellingham. Area is located in an agricultural zone. Hart pointed out the plan did not have the lots numbered and wanted to show them as Lot A and B. With the new creation of the second lot, the first lot would only have 182' for frontage. On a Brisson-Hart motion the Board voted unanimously to reject the plan because of insufficient frontage on the old lot, and went on record as wanting to have the two lots labeled. Brennan will return at the next meeting with a corrected plan at a time of 8:00 P.M.

A letter was read from Schochet Associates dated October 11th requesting another meeting with the Board regarding the proposed rezoning to multi-family off South Main Street for housing for the elderly in a private venture. Brisson told the Board he did not want to waste any more of the Board's time in discussing the matter further. Members agreed they are not in favor of the proposal due to the future plans for a third public housing for the elderly, the lack of local control of whom would come first on the list for the tenants, the apparent lack of need for Bellingham residents of such a housing, the experience in Northbridge and most important the feeling of the townspeople about multi-family zoning. Secretary will draft a letter to Schochet Associates for the Board's approval.

Board briefly discussed the proposal of eliminating the one sidewalk in Harmony Hills off North Street. Brisson told the Board he wanted to see the sidewalk installed. Hart agreed, once the new people are in and the children start going to school and have to wait for the bus on the street, the people will be wanting the town to put in sidewalks. Belanger will be in at the next meeting to discuss the matter.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted;

  
Sergio Rotatori, Clerk

BELLINGHAM PLANNING BOARD  
UPPER TOWN HALL  
BELLINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Regular meeting of October 27, 1977

Members Present: John P. Murray, Chairman  
Sergio Rotatori, Vice-Chairman, Clerk  
Gerald R. Brisson  
James E. Hart  
James A. McElroy

Chairman Murray opened the meeting at 8:00 P.M.

On a Hart-McElroy motion the foloowing bills were unanimously approved for payment:

Philip B. Herr & Associates - consultant services 10/1/77 thru 12/31/77  
.....\$900.00  
Philip B. Herr & Associates - 40 copies by-law .....\$107.21

William T. Brennan presented a plan of land, Approval Not Required, of Lots 1 and 2 on the cornor of Farm and Granite Street. 1.7 acres in Medway and 11.3 acres in Bellingham with both lots having the right amount of frontage in Bellingham. On a Brisson-McElroy motion the Board voted unanimously to approve the plan.

Letter was received from John C. Spence, 36 Irene Court, complaining about the grading and vegation of Lot 17 on Irene Court. Board read the letter and pointed out the sections of the by-law quoted referred to earth removal and not subdivision plans. Letter will be put on file.

Roger Belanger and Walter Morse of Harmony Hills Subdivision off North Street talked with the Board regarding the elimination of sidewalks entirely on the subdivision. McElroy expressed the opinion that he felt this type of a development with such a wide street already covered by asphalt would lend itself with grass sidewalks. The developers gave each member a copy of a petition signed by 28 people of Lynn and Irene Court requesting the Board to put in landscaping in the center of the two cul-de-sacs and saplings, woodchips and grass be substituted for the asphalt sidewalks. Belanger told the Board the layout of the walks are already in and there would be no problem of upkeep of the grass since it would just be a continuation of the present lawns. There would be a flat area for walking. Brisson felt the sidewalks should be put in. There have been too many cases in town where there have not been any walks and then the people come in requesting them and the town puts them in and pays for them. McElroy pointed out he live on a main street and he did not have sidewalks and he petitioned for walks, but that was because of the traffic problem. Hart agreeded with Brisson and asked if there was any adjacent area that could be developed at a later date. Belanger stated no, none at all, the roads could not be extended. The only auto traffic would be for the residents themselves. Rotatori asked what happens when the rains come and washed away the chips on the incline. In a year's time it is a mess. Belanger told the Board the residents have expressed a desire to meet with the Board if the Board decides to go with the walks. There is already a



35' wide paved highway, they don't want to add to it. Rotatori pointed out that kids are going to use the street for racing. You are going to have to have a place for the kids to walk on while waiting for the school bus. Herr told the Board his firm had taken a survey a few years back on what people thought of sidewalks, did they want them or didn't they. People who lived in subdivisions that had sidewalks, wanted to have them. People who lived in areas that did not have them, did not want to have them. The only exception they could see to this was people who lived on collector streets that didn't have walks wanted to have them because of traffic. Hart said he agreed with Hart to a certain extent, but North Street is going to be built up in the near future. They will then want sidewalks. After a while the wood chips are going to look terrible. Then the people will start to complain. McElroy felt if the only problem would be the chips, they could eliminate them and have only grass. The people will keep it up since it will be just a continuation of their lawns. Since it is the wish of the people he would favor elimination of the walks. On a McElroy-Rotatori motion with Murray voting for and Hart and Brisson voting against the majority of the Board voted to eliminate the sidewalk on Harmony Hill keeping the grading of the walks and planting grass in place of asphalt along with saplings, the two cul-de-sacs on Lynn and Irene Court would be professionally landscaped in the center in place of the asphalt, and Cape Cod berms would be installed on both sides of the street. Letter to be sent to Belanger with copy to Highway Superintendent.

Four students from MIT meet with Herr and the Board members. Herr presented a graft of Bellingham from 1960 to present outlining in years the population growth, school enrollment, what years the schools were built, water wells installed, years zoning by-laws were brought in and years in which major zoning revisions were adopted. Students will be back in the first meeting in December for further discussions with the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sergio Rotatori, Clerk

