

BELLINGHAM PLANNING BOARD
TOWN HALL ANNEX
BELLINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

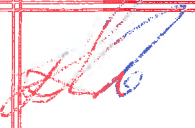
Regular Meeting of March 9, 1978

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

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

Engineer John Halnon representing Ben Ferino of Powder Hill Estates asked the Board to sign an Approval Not Required plan that would combine Lots 60, 70, and 69 into one lot (60A) using frontage of 100' on Cedar Hill Road. A copy of the original subdivision dated 1/21/57 was also shown. Plan was approved before zoning. McElroy contended since the 7 year period has now run out, present frontage requirement of 125' would have to be adhere to. A form A was filed by Halnon and will be filed with the Town Clerk. Checking back on the minutes of April 28, 1977 when the plan was first discussed with the Board, it showed the developer was thinking at that time of making a street out of the paper street Sharpe Drive and combining the three lots into two lots to meet present day requirements. McElroy felt the Board did not have the authority to sign the plan. A copy of the plan and the original subdivision will be sent to Phil Herr. Discussion on the plan will be made at the next meeting before the 14 day period runs out.

Harold Taylor of the Paralyzed Veterans Association talked with the Board and Building Inspector Henry Borowski about the state laws concerning wheelchair people. Taylor was the New England representative and was mainly concerned with educating people on the laws regarding building. In particular he was concerned with the proposed shopping center on North Main Street and asked if the Board approved the building plans. McElroy said the Board only gave their opinion as to the safety aspects on the egress, etc. Anything else would come under the building code. Borowski told the Board he had talked to Tom Clark about the Barrier Code and both were well aware of it and would comply with the law. As of 1975 anything that is privately owned or a public building covering certain buildings there are laws that have to be adhered to, such as you have to have one wheelchair space for every 25 parking spaces near the building and the curbs have to be cut down to allow wheelchairs mobility. Other things are special restrooms for the handicapped, door entries are to be wide enough to allow a wheelchair to pass through. On the cash registers the aisle is supposed to be wide enough for a wheelchair, at least one has to have this. Borowski told the Board Clark is well aware of the rules and is planning on them. Taylor told the Board he is currently going around to the area towns to make them aware of the laws. The Department of Public Safety is supporting the program of getting as many vets out of the VA Hospitals and into the community. If the community does not provide for them this will be impossible. Bellingham has at least 12 wheelchairs that he knows of. Taylor showed the Board a copy of Architectural Barriers Board put out by the Dept. of Public Safety, 1010 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston



Brisson pointed out one of the requirements are dropped curbs or ramps on each intersection on a subdivision. Board will bring this to Herr's attention. Taylor was thanked for speaking to the Board.

McElroy gave the Board a letter stating he was resigning from the Planning Board effective, Friday, March 11, 1978, due to his being elected to the Board of Selectmen. McElroy took the opportunity to thank the Board members who worked with him and helped him when he served as chairman. He was most proud that they always acted as a team. Chairman Murray thanked McElroy for all of his work on the Planning Board and wished him luck as a Selectman.

Secretary took over the meeting for the purpose of reorganization.

On a McElroy-Rotatori motion, John Murray was unanimously voted to serve as Chairman. There were no other nominations.

On a Murray-Brisson motion, Sergio Rotatori was unanimously voted to serve as Vice-Chairman, Clerk. There were no other nominations.

On a Murray-Brisson motion, Jean Brewere was unanimously voted to serve as Secretary. There were no other nominations.

Board discussed a replacement for McElroy until the Town Elections in March. Secretary will request that the three newspapers run a news item stating any person interested in fulfilling the position contact the Board in writing as soon as possible. A joint meeting then can be set up with the Selectmen.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M. on a Brisson-Rotatori motion.

Respectfully submitted,


Sergio Rotatori, Clerk