

Town of Canterbury
Board of Selectmen
June 21, 2013

Selectmen Present: Bob Steenson (via telephone)
Tyson Miller
Cheryl Gordon

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM.

Hilary Nelson and Greg Meeh attended the meeting to discuss a recent Zoning Board of Adjustment Hearing regarding a treatment center to be located at the location at 367 Shaker Road.

Hilary stated that she understands that Zoning Board Chairman Joe Halla called the Selectmen and said not to speak about this case. Tyson explained that yes, Joe did call them and expressed concerns that they were meeting about the ZBA case for the treatment center.

Greg explained that they have a ruling from the Zoning Board; we now have a permitted drug treatment center at the old Odyssey House. They want to talk about how we move forward from here.

Hilary explained that they would like to discuss what Municipality responsibility is and what will be discussed at site plan review. Hilary stated that they are concerned and are asking about the effect of the new treatment center that would not be addressed as part of the site plan review i.e.: property values, tax abatements etc. Bob mentioned having Hilary and Greg contact Mr. Spofford and think about what you would like to distract from him in terms of a commitment that could possibly be incorporated into site plan review. Hilary agrees with what Bob said and they are planning to do that.

Greg expressed concerns with the Town Health and Safety. Hilary stated that she cannot go to Mr. Spofford and talk to him about excessive usage of Fire/Safety resources. Bob explained that the Selectmen have the ability to assess impact fees if the new treatment center exceeds Police/Fire usage. Bob explained that he is unclear on what financial issues they are discussing. Hilary explained that both the Police and Fire Chief attended the meeting and expressed concerns that the facility will require more services. A brief discussion was held on the possible financial impact that the treatment center could have on the Town. Hilary suggested that the Selectmen talk to Eric Spofford and get the State involved.

Hilary gave an example of what the Town will need to think about. She reviewed the site plan for the Odyssey House. The oversight of the Odyssey House was divided up among several people. These people did not communicate well and the Odyssey house in her opinion were able to exploit that. The Planning Board when granted the site plan put only one condition on the site plan, which was that the solar house be returned to a single family unit rather than apartments. Hilary would like to suggest the Selectmen to begin talking to Eric Spofford about ways to liaise the State and Town oversight. Bob stated that the Town will enforce any conditions put on the site plan. She wants to be sure that the Town doesn't drop the ball she feels it did with the Odyssey House. . She has spent months working on this because she thinks it matters to the Town in terms of Health and Safety, real estate values etc. She is opposed to commercial development in the rural zone and she wants to make sure that things stay safe in the community. She doesn't think it's fair that the Selectmen say they can't do anything about this and you go and hash it out with the Planning Board.

Tyson explained the structure of the Town government and where the Selectmen stand in the chain.

Bob reaffirmed that he understands that Hilary and Greg are concerned with the project itself and the Board will take their concerns under advisement and will enforce the Zoning Board and Planning Board conditions.

A brief discussion was held on how the facility will be monitored. Hilary suggested that Jim Snyder and Peter Angwin talk to the State about their responsibilities. The State used to come in and do inspections, but now it's the responsibility of the Municipality doing these inspections.

Tyson suggested that the Greg and Hilary should attend get involved with the Planning Board hearings to request stipulations they would like to see on the site plan review.

Bob stated that a tour of the facility should be done as well as a tour of the existing facility in Derry.

Bob explained that the Selectmen can discuss with the Police and Fire Chiefs their concerns on this issue and what impact it will have. Greg asked Bob if the Selectmen are committed to enforcing the ruling of the Zoning Board. Bob recited the 8 conditions set forth at the Zoning Board meeting.

Greg would like to speak about the future of Canterbury and how it can be protected. The Selectmen will ask the Planning Board to review the table of uses for completeness.

Tyson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 AM. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Stout
Administrative Assistant