

**THE PLANNING BOARD
TOWN OF FRANCESTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

January 6, 2015

APPROVED MINUTES

Planning Board Members Present: S. Pyle, L. Ames, L. Kunhardt, P. Tolman and H. Camirand,
Alternate

Others present: Jack Munn of Southern NH Planning Commission

M. Callahan is taking the minutes.

The meeting was brought to order at 6:40 p.m.

Announcements and Communications

A discussion of the Master Plan with Jack Munn of Southern NH Planning was scheduled but he had not yet arrived. S. Pyle advanced the meeting to the announcements and communications portion of the meeting, without objection, until Jack Munn arrived.

S. Pyle indicated that she received a call from Gary Paige requesting a Scenic Road Hearing to be scheduled for the bridge roads: Woodward Hill and Juniper Hill/Birdsall. Gary would like it to be scheduled sometime in February. After some discussion it was decided that Planning Board Members will perform a Saturday site-walk on January 31, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. Members will meet at Woodward Hill Bridge. The Scenic Road Hearing will take place on February 3, 2015.

Review of Minutes

S. Pyle make a motion to approve the November 18, 2014 minutes as written.

All in favor.

December 2, 2014 minutes approved as written.

Vote:

S. Pyle in favor
L. Ames in favor
L. Kunhardt in favor
P. Tolman in favor
H. Camarand, abstained

Changed H. Camarand

TO:

H. Camirand

Lisa Wilsher, *Alternate*, joined the meeting.
Abigail Arnold, *Member*, joined the meeting.

Sign Ordinance Review

S. Pyle handed out copies of the revisions made to the proposed sign ordinance by Bart Meyer. Bart noted his comments and suggested amendments to the ordinance and returned via a red-lined version of the document.

4.2 Definition – Bart commented that he liked the Definition of a sign. The phrase “subject to these regulations” was removed as it was stated twice.

Lisa Bourbeau, *Member*, joined the meeting.

4.5 (b) Temporary Signs –

Bart noted in this section that he thought it was a dangerous proposition as written and that standards should be stated.

This sentence was removed from 4.5(b) Temporary Signs: Bart also indicated that if 4.5(a) referred to temporary commercial signs, 4.5(b) should refer to temporary non-commercial signs and that should be spelled out.

A discussion regarding the Board of Selectmen having the authority to grant waivers ensued.

4.6(c) Directional Signs –

Bart indicated that he does not understand the reference to location in this section which reads: “There shall be no more than one signpost for any location.” S. Pyle clarified to him what the Board meant by location and he was fine with that. He said to reflect what the meaning of location is in tonight’s meeting minutes: *at an intersection or on the side of a road*, so that if there’s ever a question about what location means, someone could go to the Planning Board Minutes to figure it out. He did however say that he would recommend issuing licenses versus permits because licenses are revocable.

A discussion on licenses versus permits and how violations and code enforcement will be handled ensued.

4.3(a) General Provisions –

Bart deleted “be removed by the Code Enforcement Officer” from the General Provisions. G. Tolman asked if, when Bart removed the above phrase from section 4.3(a), if he was making the Selectmen Code Enforcement Officers. A discussion ensued about authority and the procedure for how a complaint/violation would be handled. It was decided that the changes made by Bart reflected the standard procedure for code enforcement in Frankestown, whereas it didn’t before.

A discussion involving standards - sizes of signs and banners, length of time, number of signs and frequency of the use of signs ensued.

The following Motion was changed from:

Motion:

L. Kunhardt made a motion to change 14 days to 21 days [in Article 4.5(b)], seconded by Lisa Bourbeau. L. Kunhardt asked that the vote be held to allow for discussion.

Discussion of the change from 14 days to 21 days took place.

TO:

Motion:

L. Kunhardt made a motion to change 14 days to 21 days [in the first sentence of Article 4.5(b)], seconded by L. Bourbeau. S. Pyle commenced discussion of the second sentence relative to size and delegation of authority to the Selectmen. L. Kunhardt asked for clarification as to relevance to the motion. L. Kunhardt agreed that the vote be held to allow for discussion of the second sentence.

Discussion of delegating authority from the Planning Board to the Selectmen ensued.

Discussion of the change from 14 days to 21 days took place.

The Board agreed that the first sentence in 4.5(b) Temporary Signs should read:

Temporary signs, such as those announcing a single event or activity that is not covered in 4.5(a), occurring either on or off premises are allowed with express permission of the property owner if under six (6) square feet in size and posted for a period not to exceed twenty-one (21) days in a 365 day period.

Motion:

S. Pyle made a motion to amend the second sentence in 4.5(b) Temporary Signs to read:

Temporary signs no greater than 100 square feet may be allowed with the written permission from the Board of Selectmen.

Seconded by L. Bourbeau.

Changed "A. Arnold opposed, all others in favor.

TO:

Vote:

*Member L. Bourbeau, in favor
Alternate Harry Camirand, in favor
Member P. Tolman, in favor
Member L. Ames, in favor
Member S. Pyle, in favor*

*Member L. Kunhardt, opposed
Member A. Arnold, opposed*

Motion: A. Arnold made a motion to take the Ordinance to Public Hearing, seconded by L. Bourbeau. All in favor.

Master Plan Review

Jack Munn arrived to review his draft *Master Plan for Broadband and Demographics and Socio-Economic Characteristics*. The draft included some recommendations on ordinances, although he stated that the Town's ordinances are in good shape. He suggested the focus should be on promoting more fiber optics to homes and businesses and the Main Street area.

S. Pyle stated that the overall plan is comprehensive and may be more than need be included in the Master Plan. She suggested that the Board may use parts of the report in the Master Plan and have the entire report available as an additional resource. Munn liked that idea.

Munn recommended that the Board should get a group of people together that are concerned about broadband to review the report and make recommendations. A discussion of possible group members ensued.

The Board reviewed the *Demographics and Socio-Economic Characteristics* draft with J. Munn. Some errors were discussed; school enrollment, the numbers of condos/single family homes, valuations of properties, among others. Discussions took place as the report was reviewed by the Board, page-by-page. Munn will have corrections made when he next returns.

Adjournment: S. Pyle adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.