

PLANNING BOARD

DATE: May 23, 2013
TIME: 6:00 P.M.
PLACE: Large Meeting Room
FOR: Regular Meeting
PRESENT: Jonathan Hankin, Chairman; Suzanne Fowle; Jack Musgrove; Ethan Culleton;
Brandee Nelson
Chris Rembold, Town Planner

Mr. Hankin called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M.

REORGANIZE:

Ms. Nelson made a motion for Mr. Hankin to be the Chairman, Mr. Musgrove seconded, all in favor.

Mr. Hankin made a motion for Ms. Fowle to be the Vice Chairman, Mr. Musgrove seconded, all in favor.

Mr. Musgrove made a motion for Ms. Nelson to be the clerk, Ms. Fowle seconded, all in favor.

Mr. Musgrove made a motion for Ms. Fowle to be the Planning Board representative to the Master Plan Committee, Mr. Culleton seconded, all in favor.

Mr. Musgrove made a motion for Mr. Culleton to be the Planning Board representative to Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, Ms. Nelson seconded, all in favor.

Mr. Musgrove made a motion for Ms. Nelson to be the representative to the Lake Mansfield Task Force, Ms. Fowle seconded, all in favor.

Mr. Musgrove made a motion for Mr. Hankin to be the Planning Board representative to the Design Advisory Committee, Ms. Fowle seconded, all in favor.

FORM A'S:

Mark Reynolds was present from Kelly, Granger, Parsons and Associates with a Form A application on behalf of Brian Hoskeer for one lot containing 2.048 acres of land located on the north side of Alcott Road and the east side of Monument Valley Road.

Mr. Musgrove made a motion to approve the plan, Ms. Fowle seconded, all in favor.

MINUTES: APRIL 25, 2013 & MAY 9, 2013

Ms. Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes of April 25, 2013 as amended, Mr. Musgrove seconded, all in favor.

Ms. Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes of May 9, 2013 as amended, Mr. Musgrove seconded, all in favor.

HOUSING NEEDS STUDY:

This item was passed over to a later date.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER:

Mr. Culleton said he had someone interested in the associate member position. He suggested letter be written to the Board of Selectmen.

Planning Board
May 23, 2013
Page 2

Mr. Hankin said he had also recommended a letter of interest be written from Malcolm Fick who had previously expressed interest. He suggested this item be listed on the next agenda and anyone who wrote a letter of interest be invited to attend the next meeting.

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN:

Mr. Musgrove said he read the Open Space Plan and it looked good.

Mr. Rembold said the State puts the towns through a rigorous process to put together the OSRP. He said the rewrite of the OSRP was combined with the Master Plan process. The committee used a parallel path to update the OSRP.

Mr. Musgrove said the shift in demographics is amazing.

Mr. Rembold said yes it is interesting. He said the 25-40 age group is not declining as it is in other areas.

Ms. Nelson said she supports Ms. Fowle's comment from the previous meeting about incorporating more information into the hunting section.

Mr. Rembold said he agreed that it would be a good area to tap into. It is not a huge tourism draw so it didn't get much attention.

Mr. Hankin asked whether we should promote Great Barrington as a locus on the Appalachian Trail.

Mr. Rembold said it should be acknowledged.

Mr. Musgrove made a motion to whole heartedly support the revised Open Space and Recreation Plan, Ms. Fowle seconded, all in favor.

TOWN PLANNER'S REPORT:

Mr. Rembold said the Master Plan schedule has a few more months left for the process. The final draft will be ready in a few weeks. Hopefully there will be discussion of the final draft at the June 27 meeting with a public event in July. He said he hopes there will be a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board at the end of September. It would be good to have the Selectmen's endorsement even though the Planning Board will be the Board to officially approve the plan although there will be equal opportunities for the boards as far as implementation.

Mr. Rembold reminded the Board that the 5th Thursday dinner is next week with the topic being Medical Marijuana.

Planning Board
May 23, 2013
Page 3

Mr. Rembold said the Zoning Reform Legislation is moving forward. There has been a great deal of talk over the last 10 years. There is much discussion about revising the zoning including chapter 40A and subdivision control. The legislation covers many areas of zoning with a promising path for reform. BRPC is reviewing the legislation in detail.

Mr. Rembold said the changes may or may not impact the Town if it passes. There are many issues that are not addressed which is a missed opportunity.

Mr. Musgrove said perhaps the goal is to just get it passed.

Mr. Hankin asked how planners are viewing it.

Mr. Rembold said generally there is support of the reform. He said he would keep the Board posted.

OTHER BUSINESS: NEXT MEETING

The Board discussed the agenda for the next meeting scheduled for June 13. Mr. Rembold said there are three special permits and two site plan review applications. The Board set the following site visits:

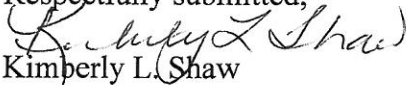
6:00 P.M. Fairview Hospital 39 Lewis Avenue

6:15 P.M. Construct 41 Mahaiwe Street

6:30 P.M. 210 Main Street

The Board decided they did not need to conduct site visits to the airport for the addition of a deck or to Jenifer House Commons for a change of use for a for profit school.

Without objection Mr. Hankin adjourned the meeting at 7:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly L. Shaw
Planning Board Secretary

