

**PLANNING BOARD  
AUGUST 27, 2013 at 7:30 PM  
TOWN HALL, 41 SOUTH MAIN STREET**

In attendance:

**Members:** Kate Connolly, Bill Dietrich (Vice-Chair), Judith Esmay (Chair), Joan Garipay, Michael Mayor, Nancy Carter (Selectmen's Representative)

**Alternates:** None

**Staff:** Vicki Smith

Others: See Attendance Sheet

1. **MINUTES JULY 2, 2013:** The minutes of July 2, 2013 (meeting and site visit) were approved.
  
2. **DISCUSSION ABOUT THE PROGRESS OF THE TECHNICAL REVIEW OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND THE AMENDMENT CALENDAR FOR TOWN MEETING 2014**

Amendment Calendar: Smith suggested establishing a very clear deadline for submission of proposed zoning amendments. A deadline date of November 15<sup>th</sup> has been used in the past. That date provides the Board time to review proposals before holding an early December meeting to seek public input. It also affords proponents sufficient time to file by petition if it appears that their proposal is not something the Board is in support of. ESMAY noted that establishing a deadline is not a State requirement. She said not having sufficient time to review proposed amendments and ramifications thereof, often leads to the Board voting to not recommend their adoption. CONNOLLY said setting a deadline has always been a goal but it has not been enforced as much lately as it has been in the past. GARIPAY said having a deadline will encourage early submissions and more attentive consideration. ESMAY questioned whether the Board would be in a position to reject amendments received after the deadline. Smith said no. CARTER spoke favorably of the proposal. DIETRICH expressed concern for submission of amendments that would stem from the Zoning Ordinance technical review.

The Board reached consensus to establish a November 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for submission of proposed amendments, beyond which there is a very high risk that the Board will not recommend adoption.

Technical Review: DIETRICH, ESMAY, and Judy Brotman, Zoning Administrator, have been going over the consultant's technical review of the Zoning Ordinance. ESMAY said the revisions pay a high degree of deference to Arthur Gardiner's (Zoning Board Chair) suggestions which come from the ZBA perspective. The smaller committee's focus has been

to review Section 902 Term Definitions, working off of the recommendations of the American Planning Association, to (1) remove language that goes beyond the definition, (2) add definitions that are missing, (3) remove terms that are not referred to elsewhere in the Ordinance, (4) create a separate page for terms associated with Article VII Protection of Flood Plains, Waterbodies, Intermittent Streams, and Wetlands, and (5) change what clearly does not reflect what occurs in Hanover. Smith cautioned that other regulations rely on terms defined in the Zoning Ordinance.

ESMAY asked of the Board's opinion as to the smaller committee's focus. There were no objections to the way in which the committee is proceeding.

### 3. OTHER BUSINESS

Neighborhood Planning: Smith said two neighborhood meetings have been held. Ledyard/Hovey/Buell and the east slope of Moose Mountain. A mailing to 290 landowners in the self-defined neighborhood of the Middle Mink Brook Watershed has been mailed out in preparation of an October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting at Trumbull Hall. This area runs from Route 120 to Cuttings Corner, up to the Trumbull House Bed & Breakfast, and all the way down to the Lebanon line on Great Hollow Road.

Other neighborhoods are also inquiring. The residents of downtown Etna are working on neighborhood boundaries. Smith said she is tracking packets that are mailed out, who responds to them, who attends the meetings, etc. ESMAY said the Board must be prepared to hear grievances/particularities from the residents. CARTER said she was discouraged that most are saying they like their neighborhood just as it is and do not welcome change, whether to accommodate better design or not.

Smith said NH grant funding received for a design charrette will focus on West Wheelock Street (density, traffic flow, pedestrian safety, parking issues, its function as the entry to Hanover and the Dartmouth campus). The charrette will be held November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Thomas Church. A suggestion was made to invite Wheelock Street residential renters to the charrette.

UVLSRPC Request: The Board was asked to comment on maps and data developed by the Commission regarding the availability of healthier food options that are convenient for people to access within the region. Smith offered to respond stating that this is a huge task; local filters must be used for evaluation. ESMAY suggested members of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee could look at this and report back to the Board.

"I Recuse Myself" article: ESMAY said each Board member is responsible for knowing when they should recuse themselves.

NH Municipal Association Law Lecture Series 2013: Board members were asked to contact staff if interested in attending.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

- 09/17 or 24 Presentation of east slope of Moose Mountain neighborhood meeting summary
- 10/01 Middle Mink Brook Watershed neighborhood meeting
- 10/08 regular meeting
- 11/05 Regular meeting (subject to change)
- 11/08 West Wheelock Street charrette
- 11/09 West Wheelock Street charrette
- 12/03 Regular meeting

**4. ADJOURN:** The meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Rivard