

**HARVARD PLANNING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
JUNE 1, 2009
APPROVED: June 15, 2009**

Chairman Joe Sudol called the meeting to order at 7:30pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room

Members Present: Joe Sudol, Barbara Brady, Craig Bardenheuer and Lisa Fox

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Susan Davitt (Harvard Press), Matt Bombaci (GPR, Inc.) and Ken Van Wormer

Minutes

Bardenheuer made a motion to accept the minutes of April 27, May 4 and May 18, 2009 as amended by members of the Board. Fox seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Associate Member Search

Sudol stated to date the Board has not found someone interested in being an Associate Member. The members agreed that an article should be placed in the local newspapers to solicit volunteers for the position as an Associate Member. Sudol will draft a brief article requesting that anyone interested should contact the office.

Continuation of an Approval Not Required – Richard & Keyo Russell, Lot 2 Old Littleton Road (Map 18 Parcel 11.2)

Matt Bombaci, from GPR, Inc., was present to present the revised ANR plan that added the recorded book and page numbers for the Special Permit.

Brady made a motion to endorse the Approval Not Required Plan submitted for Lot 2 Old Littleton Road on behalf of Richard and Keyo Russell. Bardenheuer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Wind Energy Conversion System Committee

Sudol reminded the members that he had recently met with John Sweeny to discuss the Wind Energy Conversion System (WECS) Bylaw. Sudol stated the only way the Planning Board (PB) should go back to the 2010 Annual Town Meeting with a WECS Bylaw is if a committee is created with a representative cross section of individuals. These individuals should be charged with the task of reviewing the proposed Bylaw and indicating the areas that they feel are too restrictive. Members agreed with Sudol's approach and would like to move forward with the formation of the Committee. The members agreed that the PB should send a notice to the local papers asking for interested individuals to contact the office. This Committee will be made up of five to seven individuals.

Sudol will draft a notice for Brady to review prior to submitting to the local papers.

Scenic Road Consent Hearing – Richard & Keyo Russell, Lot 3 Old Littleton Road (Map 18 Parcel 11.2). Opened at 8:15pm

Adjournment

Bardenheuer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:08pm. Fox seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Signed: _____
Lisa Fox, Clerk

Harvard Planning Board

Scenic Road Consent Hearing

Richard & Keyo Russell, Lot 3 Old Littleton Road (Map 18 Parcel 11.2)

June 1, 2009

Chairman Joe Sudol opened the meeting at 8:15pm under M.G.L. Chapter 40 §15C and the Code of the Town of Harvard, Chapter 90 in the Town Hall Meeting Room

Members Present: Joe Sudol, Barbara Brady, Craig Bardenheuer and Lisa Fox

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Susan Davitt (Harvard Press), Matt Bombaci (GPR, Inc.) and Ken Van Wormer

This hearing is for a Scenic Road Consent filed on behalf of Richard & Keyo Russell for the removal of a portion of the existing stonewall and tree for a driveway connection for construction of a single-family dwelling at Lot 3 Old Littleton Road, Harvard (Map 18 Parcel 11.2)

Matt Bombaci, of GPR, Inc., explained the driveway has been located as far away from the edge of the wetland as possible to try and satisfy the Conservation Commission setbacks. Sudol asked how wide the driveway would be. Bombaci stated 12 feet. Sudol then asked what the width of the throat area for the driveway would be. Bombaci stated 16 feet. Sudol asked why 36 feet of stone wall had to be removed. Bombaci stated he believes the plan was done in a manner that allowed for wiggle room to be certain all work, such as grading, would be included. Bombaci stated once the work is complete the removed stones could be replaced in the area of the grading. Sudol feels that 20 to 25 feet of stone wall is a reasonable length for remove rather than 36 feet. Sudol asked about the proposed catch basin, which would be installed on Town Right of Way (ROW) and why it is not being installed on the applicant's property. Bombaci explained there is an existing stone swale and the proposed location would aid in getting the water back to the swale. The question is who would be responsible for maintenance of the basin. Bombaci agreed that maintenance of the basin should be that of the applicant and not the Town. Sudol wondered why a catch basin was proposed and not a culvert. Bombaci stated that a catch basin will treat the water prior to entering the wetland, where as a culvert would just flow directly into the wetland. He also stated that a culvert could probably be used. Fox asked if it could be conditioned that it would be the responsibility of the applicant to clean the swale. Brady and Sudol did not know the answer and would need to ask Town Counsel or the Highway Director. Sudol noted that at the site walk on May 23rd, it was determined that if the driveway was located further west it would improve the sight distance in both direction, would reduce the required grading and would not require the removal of a large ash tree that would have to be removed under the current plan.

Fox would like to see the driveway moved 20 feet to the west and the length of stone wall to be removed be reduced to 20 to 25 feet. Bardenheuer stated there would be less square footage of disturbance if the driveway is moved to the west and not having to remove the tree is a positive step that should be taken if possible.

Sudol read the letter from the Conservation Commission questioning the need to removal of 36 feet of stone wall and the removal of tree. Sudol also read the comment from the building inspector, who has no issue.

Sudol wants to clarify the maintenance of the catch basin and its installation within the ROW. Bardenheuer feels there are other options to the location of the driveway that are doable and should be considered. Fox and Brady agreed.

Ken Van Wormer, an abutter, asked what the jurisdiction over trees is. Sudol explained trees within the ROW are under the jurisdiction of the Planning Board, but can only be removed by the Tree Warden. The tree as currently proposed would be removed to install the driveway and is not being considered for removal because a sightline issue. Van Wormer is interested in the drainage, as the Town has abandoned the drainage in front of his house on Oak Hill Road and has ruined the roadway not to mention his lawn as well. Van Wormer stated the Town has done a lot of work on Old Littleton Road without any permits in years past that has had more damage than any one driveway could do.

Bombaci request that a letter be sent to the Conservation Commission expressing the opinion of the Planning Board in regards to a resolution to the location of the driveway. Brady will write the letter.

Bardenheuer made a motion to continue the hearing to July 6, 2009 at 8:00pm. Brady seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Signed: _____
Lisa Fox, Clerk