

**HARVARD PLANNING BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 15, 2010
APPROVED: January 3, 2011**

Chair Kara McGuire Minar opened the meeting at 7:30m in the Town Hall break room under M.G.L. Chapter 40A and the Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 125

Members Present: Kara McGuire Minar, Craig Bardenheuer, Lisa Fox and Michelle Catalina (Associate Member)

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin) and Bill Johnson (Board of Selectmen)

2011 Annual Town Meeting Bylaw Amendments

McGuire Minar suggested that inconsistencies that exist within the Protective Bylaw, Chapter 125 of the Code of the Town of Harvard should be cleared up in 2011. A reasonable amount to update the Master Plan will need to be determined as a request for funding. It will be helpful to know how the Master Plan was funded previously. McGuire Minar will follow up with Steve Rowse of the Community Preservation Committee to determine if parts of the Master Plan could be funded with Community Preservation Act money.

Other items that should be considered for the 2011 Annual Town Meeting include the potential for a part-time planner, accessory apartment tax relief on affordable units, and enforcement of the Scenic Road Bylaw. McGuire Minar believes there should be some recognition of scenic road violations other than a civil case. The Board will need to speak to Town Counsel about this topic.

Board Members Reports – Committee Activities

Bardenheuer stated that at a recent Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee meeting he was informed that a survey in regards to transportation had a low response from the Town of Harvard. Bardenheuer stated the Ayer parking facility is still being revised with a current reduction in the number of parking spaces.

Allard stated that the Board of Selectmen Poor Farm Sub-committee is still lacking a Planning Board representative. McGuire Minar stated she would take on that responsibility.

Review Economic Development Committee Candidates

A spreadsheet listing each of the interested candidates for the Economic Development Committee (EDC) and their experience had been previously distributed to the members. Bill Johnson, representative to the EDC from the Board of Selectmen, stated that he has spoken to a lot of people around Town about being on the EDC, but time constraints is the issue with most. McGuire Minar wonders what the ethics or non-disclosure issues are with the potential candidates. Johnson stated that when members of the EDC review potential development they are not involved or have perks to the development. Johnson stated that he had asked Al Combs if he has been involved with any development in Town and Combs had stated no. McGuire Minar noted that Combs does have current business ventures in Town. Johnson stated that any conflicts of interested would have to be disclaimed. Johnson added that there is no one who is proposed for EDC that owns any land within the commercial district. Johnson suggested that McGuire Minar ask that question during the interview process at the Board of Selectmen hearing tomorrow night. McGuire Minar would be comfortable with a disclaimer of sorts that clearly states that the information obtained during the process will not results in any type of benefit from the development. McGuire Minar thinks at this level of sensitivity would need some type of coverage to avoid any conflicts. Johnson feels these are points that are already covered by the laws that any elected or appointed official must abide by. Bardenheuer is okay with that, as was Fox. Catalina does not think there is going to be secretive items discussed that would put anyone in a

bad predicament. Bardenheuer stated that he only knows two of the candidates and stated they are good people. Others were not all that familiar with the candidates.

ZBA Request for Comments – Curtiss, 71 Old Mill Road (Map 4 Parcel 58)

The Board has received a request for comments from the ZBA in regards to the reconstruction of a home at 71 Old Mill Road that was badly damaged by fire earlier this year. Catalina will review the plan and draft comments for approval at the next meeting.

Adjournment

Fox made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07pm. Bardenheuer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Signed: _____
Lisa Fox, Clerk

DOCUEMENTS & OTHER EXHIBITS

- Spreadsheet of Economic Development Candidates submitted by Board of Selectmen Bill Johnson, no date