

Meeting Minutes for March 3, 2011

Milton Planning Board

The 17th meeting of the Planning Board for fiscal year 2011 was held on Thursday, March 3, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. in the Carol Blute Conference Room, Town Hall .

In attendance: Planning Board members Alexander Whiteside, Emily Keys Innes, Peter F. Jackson, Bernard J. Lynch, III, Edward L. Duffy, Planning Director William Clark.

Absent: Administrative Assistant Diane Colligan

1. ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS

The Planning Board postponed approval of meeting minutes until the next meeting.

2. FUTURE MEETINGS

The Planning Board confirmed future meetings for March 10, 2011 and March 24, 2011 in the Carol Blute Conference Room, Town Hall at 6:30 P.M.

3. CITIZENS SPEAK

No one requested to speak.

HEATHER DRIVE

Chairman Alex Whiteside opened discussion relating to a lot on Heather Drive that would be considered by the Board of Appeals. Mr. Whiteside presented the Board with a letter for the Zoning Board which opposed the applicant's request for a variance for an additional story and additional height. All members of the Board signed the letter.

- 4.** A notice was presented to the Board which indicated that the owner of property numbered 206 Pleasant Street had filed an appeal in Superior Court of the Planning Board's approval of a subdivision of a parcel numbered 216 Pleasant Street.

5. PUBLIC HEARING RELATIVE TO 131 ELIOT STREET

Mr. Steven Connolly was in attendance representing the property under discussion. Mr. Jackson reported that he received 29 emails all of which supported the retaining of black oak tree at the front corner of the existing property.

Mr. Whiteside noted that it was obvious that saving the tree from removal was, “the will of the people.”

Mr. Connolly reported that his arborist would not be available until the end of March and he further stated that Mr. Jackson should recuse himself from the deliberations allegedly because he was not impartial. Mr. Connolly read from a lengthy document which questioned Mr. Jackson’s ability to be independent on the matter. Mr. Jackson stated that he would publicly comment on Mr. Connolly’s allegations at a later date. Mr. Whiteside opened the meeting for public discussion. Anne Thompson of Evergreen Lane spoke about Mr. Jackson’s character and knowledge and how both are above reproach. Margaret Donovan of 41 Central Avenue said that the building was dangerous. Joseph Sloan of Concord Avenue showed a color photo of the tree in question in full foliage. Mr. Whiteside noted that the applicant, Mr. Connolly, had left the room and was not available and that, “his absence does not enhance the process.”

Mr. Steve O’Donnell of 65 Hills View Road stated the tree was as historic as any building.

Nancy Lattanzi of the Amateur Gardeners of Milton spoke in favor of the tree and stated that Mr. Connolly was disrespectful for leaving the room. Elise Brink of 30 Canton Avenue presented the Board with a list of 144 names that supported the saving of the tree.

Mr. Louis Perro of 105 Fullers Lane and a member of Sustainable Milton spoke in favor of the tree. Ernest Brink of 30 Canton Avenue stated that Mr. Connolly should be told that a better project would result if the tree was preserved. Mrs. Jeffries of Canton Avenue stated that she loves trees and the prominence of that tree defines the Central Avenue Square.

(continued until March 24)

6. 17 CANTON AVENUE SITE PLAN APPROVAL, PUBLIC HEARING

Attorney Robert Sheffield and Architect Bill Christopher represented the applicant. Mr. Sheffield reported that the applicant had met with neighbors and that progress was being made.

Mr. George Lovely, an architect residing at 29 Canton Avenue reported that progress was occurring.

Mr. Steve O’Donnell, the chairman of the Historic Commission, related the history of the site that is on the National Registry of Historic Districts and dates to 1831.

(continued to April 14, 2011.)

7. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING, 683-685 BRUSH HILL ROAD

Attorney Robert Sheffield, Engineer James Burke and applicant Anthony Ruscito were present. Mr. Sheffield stated that since the last meeting he has walked the property with John MacDonald of Brush Hill Road and many trees were identified and flagged. Mr. Sheffield added that snow plow blades are typically 8' wide. Mr. Burke also distributed a plan of the property (11" x 17") which had significant trees shown. Tim Kernan of Brush Hill Road stated that the neighborhood wants to preserve the current location of the driveway for 60 feet. Paul Andriani owner of the corner lot on the southeast side of the area under review spoke about access issues. Anthony Ruscito stated that he would be talking with Doctor Ardrani.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Edward L. Duffy, Secretary