

MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 18, 2013

Milton Planning Board

The twenty-fourth meeting of the Milton Planning Board for fiscal year 2013 was on Thursday April 18, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the John Cronin Conference Room, Milton Town Hall.

In attendance were Planning Board members Alexander Whiteside-Chairman, Edward L. Duffy, Emily Keys Innes, Bernard J. Lynch, III, Planning Director William Clark and Administrative Clerk Jean M. Peterson. Member Michael E. Kelly was absent from the meeting.

1. **Administrative Tasks**

The Board approved the Minutes of March 14th and March 21st and postponed approval of the March 28th Minutes. The Board announced that the third public forum for the Master Plan Visioning is scheduled for April 25th at 7 p.m. in the Milton High School Auditorium.

2. **Citizens Speak**

Denny Swenson of 66 Green Street informed the Board that she would like to submit a request to register Hemenway Drive and Avenue A as scenic ways with the Towns of Milton and Canton. She stated that she is also applying to register Hemenway Drive as an historic site with the Massachusetts Historical Commission. She gave a brief historical overview of the area and presented each member of the Board with binders containing pertinent information. Chairman Whiteside and Member Innes stated that the Board would need to research if the Town has jurisdiction to designate private ways as scenic ways. The Board extended their appreciation to Ms. Swenson for her thorough presentation.

3. **Public Hearing**

- Medical Marijuana Moratorium

Mr. Clark presented the Department of Public Health's "Draft Medical Marijuana Regulations" He informed the Board that if Town Meeting passes a moratorium, which would delay the opening of any dispensary until June 30, 2014, it would allow the Town the time to study the issues and develop a set of regulations.

Public Comments

Michael Blanchard, Health Agent for the Town of Milton informed the Board that the Board of Health is in support of the moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries. He stated the

importance of studying the issues prior to opening a dispensary in the Town.

Jessie Lane of 89 Highland Street asked the Board to consider the matter seriously as it relates to possible drug abuse.

Rene Ruiz, address not provided, addressed the Board as an activist for marijuana laws and provided the Board with information, including a report titled “Americans for Safe Access”. He noted that Massachusetts’ regulations are among the tightest in the country. He stated concern that a moratorium may prevent residents from receiving the medication they need.

Mark Tully of 11 Gulliver Street spoke about the benefits of medical marijuana as it relates to patient suffering and cautioned the Board about negative information which could compromise the potential benefits of responsible marijuana use.

Member Innes made a motion to close the public hearing. The Board voted all in favor. The Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting support the moratorium on medical marijuana.

4. **Old Business**

- 17 Canton Avenue – Amended Site Plan Approval; Signing of decision

The Board stated that since the previous meeting, they had received the specifications on the back-up generator and air conditioning units, as requested. The Board discussed the language of the written decision. The canopy was a matter of concern as the Board was not impressed with its appearance. Member Innes stated her opinion that the design of the canopy is out of scale with the entrance. Member Innes made a motion to approve the site plan with changes as discussed. The motion was not seconded. The Board decided to postpone a decision until matters relative to the canopy and language of the decision are resolved.

- Master Plan

Member Innes discussed the draft documents for the Master Plan. She stated that there is still time to submit comments for the Draft Report and that an opportunity will exist for the Board to review the final plan. She reminded the Board of the final public forum for the Master Plan Visioning which is scheduled for April 25th at the Milton High School Auditorium. She stated that the Board will request funding for the second phase of the Master Plan at Town Meeting.

- 40B Projects

131 Eliot Street

Chairman Whiteside informed the Board that a second meeting was held relative to development of the Hendrie's site. He stated that progress was being made of issues that had previously prevented approval of the special permit. He added that the Connelys were not present for the second meeting. Member Duffy informed the Board that he had received communication from at least one resident expressing concern that (private) meetings were being held regarding the matter. Members Innes and Duffy stated that the Board should be informed of the meetings. Member Whiteside advised that all proposals would be subject to public hearing but that there is no formal proposal at the present time. He informed that Board that there would be another meeting on the following Sunday. He stated that he would like a proposal that is satisfactory to as many as people as possible.

Milton MEWS

The Board discussed conducting a site walk in order to get a perspective of the locations of wetlands, Fowl Meadow and building placement.

5. **Town Planner's Report**

Mr. Clark informed the Board that he is currently working on the following issues:

- Coordinating comments on 40B projects
- Brush Hill Road project
- Power point presentation for upcoming Town Meeting

6. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Edward L. Duffy
Secretary

