

PLANNING BOARD

DRAFT MINUTES

JANUARY 17, 2012

Chairman Bob Craycraft called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Members Present: Bob Craycraft (Chair), Scott Drummey (Vice-Chair), David Bickford (Selectmen's Representative), Dot Veisel, Paul Raslavicus, Craig Groom (Alternate)

Members Excused: No absences

Others Present: Mary McHale videographer, David Allen staff

Public Input: Chair Craycraft asked if there was any public input. Mary McHale, videographer, noted that this was her last time filming a Planning Board meeting before moving out of town, and thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with such committed and thoughtful citizens.

Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Regulations: Chair Craycraft opened the Public Hearing on the proposed regulations which implement the Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Ordinance adopted at Town Meeting in 2010. No members of the public were present and so Mr. Craycraft closed the public input at 7:05 PM. Some board members had a few brief comments but all were satisfied that after many months of work they had crafted a good set of regulations.

Dot Veisel moved to adopt the Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Regulations as proposed. Scott Drummey seconded. Approved unanimously.

Warrant Articles for 2012 Town Meeting. The Board discussed the wording of the warrant articles which place the amendments to the Town Center Mixed Use District Ordinance and the Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Ordinances on the ballot for Town Meeting 2012. One change to clarify language was agreed to. Mr. Allen reprinted the Warrant Articles with the change.

Paul Raslavicus moved to approve the Warrant Article language as amended for 2012 Town Meeting. Scott Drummey seconded. Approved unanimously.

Certification: All board members signed the Warrant Articles, the proposed Amendments to the Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Ordinance, and the proposed Amendments to the Town Center Mixed Use District Ordinance to certify them so they can be delivered to the Town Clerk.

Working Session on Board Training: The Board agreed by consensus to schedule two training sessions for the Board during the year. One should be an update on recent changes in Land Use law by the legislature or by court interpretation. The second....

The Board would like to schedule these training sessions at its regular 3rd Tuesday workshop meeting, if possible, and plan on 1 ½ to 2 hours in length. The Board would invite members of other Land Use Boards and citizens.

They also discussed training for new members of the Board. They agreed that new members should be required to get training and orientation in x specific areas: Thorough reading of the Zoning Ordinance and Town Regulations; participate in training sessions at OEP conferences or other sources on basic Planning & Zoning law, and the role of Planning Boards.

Working Session on Dark Skies Regulation: The Board discussed the process they wanted to use for writing these regulations. Board members have a lot of questions about the scientific and practical knowledge that exists regarding this issue. They agreed it would be helpful to begin with a conversation with one or two people who have expertise in both the scientific and practical issues involved.

The Board would then work on crafting a set of regulations. They expect that as they do that additional questions will arise, and it will be helpful to have the same experts return for another conversation. Hopefully they will then be ready to finish writing the regulations.

Working Session on Improving Clarity and Brevity of Ordinances and Regulations: Mr. Allen reported that he has been trying to contact Town of Northwood Planning staff to ask them about their process for writing ordinances and regulations. He feels they are particularly well done. He distributed a copy of their Development Ordinance and asked members to skim over it and see if they find it more user friendly.

New/Old Business: Dot Veisel and Craig Groom reported on a training session they attended on 2011 changes to the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act. They reported that extensive changes had been made, most of which decreased protection for lakes and rivers. Some of the changes made in the state law are not relevant to New Durham because the town's Shore Front Protection Ordinance is stricter in some cases than the revised state law. Dot suggested the possibility of the Planning Board getting the Conservation Commission and Merrymeeting Lake Association to include a time at the MMLA annual meeting for Jason Aube, the staff person from DES who spoke at their

training session, to repeat the training. The format would need to be adjusted so that it is clear when Town regulations are stricter than the new state regulations.

Minutes: The Board reviewed the January 3 Planning Board minutes and tabled them so that missing information could be included.

Respectfully submitted,

David Allen,
Land Use Administrative Assistant