

MINUTES

NEW DURHAM ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

OCTOBER 13, 2010

Acting Chair Mike Hoffman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call: Bill McGrew (Vice-Chair), Wendy Anderson, Mike Hoffman, Helen Wellman. **Excused:** Larry Prelli (Chair)

Others Present: Terry Jarvis, Chair, Board of Selectmen

Public Input: There were no other members of the public present.

Town of New Durham Board of Selectmen: Terry Jarvis, as Chair of the BOS, described the variance the BOS is requesting to Article XIV.E.1, the sign ordinance. The ordinance limits the size of a sign in town (except on Route 11) to 16 square feet.

The Board of Selectmen wishes to place a bulletin board in the yard in front of Town Hall (4 Main Street, Map 250-001) near the parking lot. They have received many complaints from individuals about needing to park their cars, get out of their cars, and walk up to the Town Hall front door in order to read public notices. This is particularly challenging in the winter.

A couple of years ago the tornado destroyed the existing bulletin board on the front of the Town Hall building. The Selectmen see this as an excellent opportunity to improve public access to notices.

The Board looked at several different options and settled on a 3-panel glass enclosed bulletin board. The panels will make it easier to separate official town notices from other public information. The bulletin board is 24 square feet in size.

In answer to ZBA questions Ms. Jarvis said there would be no special lighting on the board. It will be mounted on two 4" x 4" pressure treated posts. It will be set back from the road far enough that people cannot try to read it from the road, which would be a safety hazard. She said the precise siting would be decided in consultation with the Road Agent so as not to interfere with snow plowing or lawn mowing.

Bill McGrew moved to grant a variance to Article XIV.E.2 of the Zoning Ordinance to the Town of New Durham Board of Selectmen in order to allow the installation of a bulletin board at the Town Hall, 4 Main Street (Map 250-001) that is 24 square feet instead of the maximum 16 square feet limited by

the Zoning Ordinance. He said he thinks the bulletin board will be good for the community and is not contrary to the spirit of the ordinance. Helen Wellman seconded. Approved by a vote of 4-0 with no abstentions.

Budget: The Board reviewed the proposed budget for the ZBA, which is \$1000. They talked about their sense that staff has more work than one person can handle. David Allen said that he was proposing 8 hours a week of clerical/secretarial time for the Land Use Office for next year's budget. The Board agreed on the importance of that additional staffing.

Bill McGrew moved that the Zoning Board of Adjustment urge the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee of New Durham to provide funding for additional personnel resources to the Land Use Office to be used at the discretion of the Land Use Administrative Assistant; and that a letter to that effect be forwarded to both boards.

Helen Wellman seconded. Approved 4-0 with no abstentions.

Minutes of May 19, 2010. The Board has not acted on these minutes because they have had no meeting since then. Board members made a few corrections. **Bill McGrew moved that the Board accept the minutes of May 19, 2010 as amended. Mike Hoffman seconded. Approved 4-0 with no abstentions.**

Bill McGrew moved to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Helen Wellman seconded. Approved 4-0 with no abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,

David Allen,
Land Use Administrative Assistant