

TOWN OF NORTHBOROUGH PLANNING BOARD

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Approved 10/1/13

Planning Board Meeting Minutes September 26, 2013

Members Present: Rick Leif, Michelle Gillespie, Theresa Capobianco, Leslie Harrison, George Pember

Others Present: Kathy Joubert, Town Planner; Fred Lonardo, Inspector of Buildings/Zoning Enforcement Officer

Public portion of the meeting began at 8:00pm.

Special Town Meeting for Medical Marijuana: Ms. Joubert reminded the board a training session with Town Counsel regarding Medical Marijuana has been scheduled on October 15th for the Planning Board, ZBA, Board of Health and the Board of Selectmen. The boards will decide whether they want to go forward with a bylaw or adopt a moratorium. All moratoriums requested were approved last year by the Attorney General, but may not be this year because the Department of Public Health regulations are in now in place.

Ms. Joubert provided the Board with a draft moratorium for possible consideration at the October 28th Special Town Meeting. The language follows the moratorium bylaw language from the Town of Burlington which has been approved by the Attorney General. Town Counsel has reviewed the language as to form and content. She noted no proprietor is looking at locating in Northborough. Some have looked in Shrewsbury and Grafton, and a proprietor came before the Shrewsbury Planning Board. The state allows 35 dispensaries and no county can have more than 5 dispensaries.

In general, the board members felt they have plenty to work on for the annual town meeting with solar energy and temporary signs, and also want to hear from town counsel and the other boards at the October 15th workshop. All of the members were not in favor of a moratorium for Medical Marijuana.

Solar Energy: The board will hold a public hearing on the proposed solar moratorium on October 23rd, prior to the Special Town Meeting which is scheduled for October 28, 2013.

Next Meetings: The next meetings of the board will be held on October 1st, October 15th and October 23rd.

Temporary Sign Bylaw: Ms. Joubert and Mr. Lonardo have prepared draft changes to the existing sign bylaw and will provide it to the Board prior to the October 1st meeting.

Approval of Minutes: The Board approved the minutes of 9/3/13 and 9/10/13.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Grampietro, Board Secretary