

**Norwell Planning Board Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting Osborn Room & Planning Office
January 30, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30 P.M. in the Osborn Room, Present were Board Members Bruce W. Graham, Karen A. Joseph, Sally I. Turner, Michael J. Tobin, and Town Planner Todd Thomas. Member Charles Markham arrived at approximately 8:15 P.M.

TOWN OF NORWELL

FEB 14 2008

TOWN CLERK
JANICE M. LAWSON

DISCUSSION: Pathway Committee Interviews w/ Selectmen:

7:30 P.M. Steve Baranowski:

The Town Planner informed the Selectmen and the Planning Board that Steve Baranowski would not be able to keep his meeting time.

7:40 P.M. Betsy Jackson:

Betsy Jackson of 45 Simon Hill Road appeared before the Selectmen and the Planning Board. She said that she was an avid walker and that walking long distances around Pleasant Street was not safe due to the amount and speed of traffic. Member Turner said that the Pathway Committee should consider the needs of both walker and bikers.

7:50 P.M. Helene Quinn:

Helene Quinn of 47 Wilder Road appeared before the Selectmen and the Planning Board. She said that she was a member of a cycling group for seniors and also enjoys walking. She added that it might be hard to construct a bikepath through the Jacobs Pond area due to its topography. Selectman Mariano thought that the Pathway Committee should have a geographic representation that reflects the interests of the entire Town.

8:00 P.M. Christine Josti:

Christine Josti of 3 School Street appeared before the Selectmen and the Planning Board. She said that she is an avid walker and biker and that she is very excited about the opportunity to serve on the committee. She added that a lot of young mothers would take advantage of a pathway with a smooth surface to push strollers on. Member Graham asked if Ms. Josti attended the South Shore Greenway meeting on the previous night and asked what she took away from it. She replied that she had and that she thought it was very exciting. Ms. Josti said that she would like to recreate the charrette process used at the Greenway meeting in evaluating pathway proposals in Norwell.

8:10 P.M. Brendan Recupero:

Brendan Recupero of 398 Circuit Street appeared before the Selectmen and the Planning Board. He mentioned that he was an attorney and a member of the Mass Bay Road Club and he had conducted bike tours through Norwell in the past. He added that he could provide input as to how to construct a bike trail that works for cyclists of all skill levels. Member Turner asked if Mr. Recupero practiced land use law. He replies that he did not.

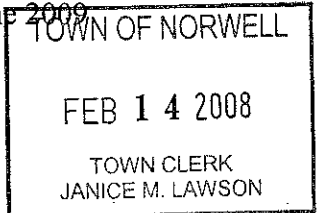
8:30 P.M. Dick Twigg:

Dick Twigg of 17 Stetson Road appeared before the Selectmen and the Planning Board ahead of his agreed upon meeting time. He referred to the failure of the 1996 Bikeway Plan and said that any revisions to it must ensure wide community support before it goes to Town Meeting. He added that deeded easements existed from the Cole School to the Town Hall and that the Pathway Committee would be well served to consult with the

authors of the 1996 Bikeway plan. Selectmen Merritt said that he thought it was important to add a member of the previous Bikeway plan to the Pathway Committee.

8:20 P.M. Scott Raeside:

Scott Raeside of 8 Ridge Hill Road appeared before the Selectmen and the Planning Board. He said that he saw an article about the Pathway Committee in the Patriot Ledger and had been very excited about the opportunity ever since. He added that his interest was in providing pedestrian connections throughout the Town and ensuring that his children could ride their bikes safely. Mr. Raeside asked about the duration of the Pathway Committee. Member Graham replied that he thought a proposal to the 2009 Town Meeting would be a reasonable timeframe in which to produce a report.



***The Planning Board reconvened in the Planning Office at 8:35**

DISCUSSION: Draft Agenda.

Member Joseph moved to add a discussion on the Capital Budget to the agenda. Member Tobin moved and Member Joseph seconded that the Board accept the amended agenda. The motion was approved 5-0.

DISCUSSION: Capital Budget Update

Member Joseph provided the Planning Board with an update on the progress of the Capital Budget process.

DISCUSSION: Samuel Woodworth ANR.

Upon a motion made by Member Joseph and seconded by Member Tobin, the ANR "Plan of Land in Norwell, Ma. Showing a Redivision of Property Line Between Parcels 46-63 & 46-27 16 Samuel Woodworth Road & 180 Central Street Drawn for: George K. Bauer, Jr.", dated January 14, 2008, Prepared by Professional Land Surveyor William Joseph McGovern of Stenbeck & Taylor, Inc., Marshfield, MA was accepted and recognized by the Planning Board as of January 30, 2008. A 4-0-1 vote affirmed the motion with Member Turner abstaining from the vote.

The Town Planner noted a number of technical inadequacies with the plan, including the lack of ownership information and the depiction of ways and setbacks. Upon a motion made by Member Joseph and seconded by Member Markham, it was decided that the ANR "Plan of Land in Norwell, Ma. Showing a Redivision of Property Line Between Parcels 46-63 & 46-27 16 Samuel Woodworth Road & 180 Central Street Drawn for: George K. Bauer, Jr.", dated January 14, 2008, Prepared by Professional Land Surveyor William Joseph McGovern of Stenbeck & Taylor, Inc., Marshfield, MA was not substantially compliant with the Board's regulations. A 4-0-1 vote with Member Turner abstaining affirmed the motion. Member Joseph moved and Member Markham seconded that the Board make the findings shown on the draft certificate of action and **DENY** the ANR Plan for the reasons stated therein. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with Member Turner abstaining.

DISCUSSION: Pathway Committee Nomination Voting.

Member Markham mentioned that the Board should consider ensuring that the Pathway Committee has a diverse representation across all three Town precincts. Member Turner

said that walkers and bikers have somewhat different interests and the committee should have a mix of both groups.

The Members voted via secret ballot and the Town Planner tallied the votes. He noted that three candidates (Steve Ivas, Betsy Jackson, and Dick Twigg) received the same vote total for the last two at-large seats. Member Turner said that she prefers Betsy Jackson and Dick Twigg. Member Graham mentioned that Dick Twigg had agreed to serve as an ex-officio member of the committee, therefore all three people could serve on the Pathway Committee. Member Joseph said that she prefers that Steve Ivas serve as an alternate. The Town Planner agreed to send a letter to the Selectmen with the Board's nominations to the committee with Steve Ivas as the alternate. The letter was to also include the three nominations to the committee from standing Boards or Commissions. The Town Planner informed the Board that the Selectmen would formally appoint the committee on Wednesday February 6th based on the Board's nominations.

TOWN OF NORWELL
FEB 14 2008
TOWN CLERK
JANICE M. LAWSON

DISCUSSION: GIS Vote (Contingent upon Budget Availability).

The Town Planner said that the Board could consider authorizing the purchase of a GIS seat to aid its staff in the planning of the Pathway Committee and the mapping needed to determine if Norwell is 1.5% affordable by the total land area zoned for residential, commercial, or industrial use. Member Markham said that Norwell's abundant Town owned open space might make the 1.5% 40B opt-out provision attainable.

DISCUSSION: Simon Hill 40B.

Upon a motion made by Member Tobin and seconded by Member Joseph, the Planning Board approved that the Simon Hill Planning Board comment letter be sent to the Selectmen, subject to final proofreading changes. The vote affirming this motion was 4-0-1 with Member Markham abstaining.

Member Graham brought up future Planning Board involvement with the White Barn Village 40B and that he would like a written request before he undertakes an additional comment letter on the Road Improvement Plans. Member Joseph said that Lois Barbour would like further Planning Board review. Member Graham agreed to meet with Member Joseph and the Town Planner the next morning to review the Road Improvement Plans.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 9:50 P.M. Member Markham moved and Member Joseph seconded that the Board adjourn. The motion was approved by a vote of 5-0.

I certify that the above minutes were reviewed and approved by majority vote by the Planning Board on February 13, 2008.


Sally I. Turner, Clerk