



ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

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ORLEANS PLANNING BOARD

March 13, 2012 - Minutes

A meeting of the Orleans Planning Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Nauset Meeting Room at the Orleans Town Hall. **Present:** **Chairman:** Chet Crabtree; **Vice-Chairman:** Steve Bornemeier; John Fallender. **Associate:** Andrea Shaw-Reed. **Planning Department Staff:** George Meservey. **Also Present:** **Board of Selectmen Liaison:** Jon Fuller. **Absent:** **Associate:** Paul McNulty, **Clerk:** Charles Bechtold and Kenneth McKusick.

COVE ROAD – MAIN STREET WALKWAY

Meservey explained that after the endorsement of the Streetscape Plan, the Orleans Community Partnership has been working toward the design and ultimate construction of the proposed walkway connection between Main Street and Cove Road. Meservey described the formation of a new representative group (known as the “Standards” Committee) to deal with the issue of fixtures such as streetlights and benches and have presented the Planning Board with a list of recommendations. Meservey stated that after Planning Board endorsement, the recommendations will be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen. Meservey stated that the Orleans Community Partnership is funding the capital improvements. Planning Board members reviewed and discussed the recommendations for streetlights, benches, light bollards, bike racks, trash receptacles, and wayfinding bollards.

MOTION: On a motion by **John Fallender**, seconded by **Andrea Shaw-Reed**, the Board voted to recommend endorsement of the Streetscape “Standards” document, prepared by the Orleans Community Partnership “Standards Committee”, dated March 6, 2012 and forward it to the Board of Selectmen for review on March 28, 2012.

VOTE: 4-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL DISTRICT

In a memorandum to the Planning Board, George Meservey noted that the Planning Board requested further investigation into a potential application to have the Village Center designated as a MA Cultural District with goals which are consistent with the following Planning Board vision statement (revised in November 12, 2009):

“The Orleans Village Center is, and will continue to be, a vibrant commercial and community center for the town, and will develop into a focal point for community and cultural activities and services for residents and visitors. The small-town character of the village will be maintained and enhanced. Mixed-use and other appropriate development will be encouraged through changes to the zoning bylaws. Street trees and decorative landscaping will be encouraged. Improved sidewalks, lighting, street furniture and the placement of utility lines underground will be pursued.”

Consistent with a traditional village development pattern that will be safe and attractive for pedestrians, it will be desirable to have small shops lining the streets with parking provided to the rear of the buildings where possible. Sidewalk cafes will be encouraged. The scale and materials used for new construction in the village will be in keeping with the village character, and property owners will be encouraged to improve the appearance of existing buildings. Residential units above storefronts will be encouraged. Provisions will be made to accommodate the flow of vehicular traffic, but not at the expense of providing a safe and attractive pedestrian environment. Appropriate parking to serve businesses and village residents will be provided for.”

and the goals of the Village Center revitalization effort listed below:

- *Attract artists and cultural enterprises*
- *Encourage business and job development*
- *Establish the district as a tourist destination*
- *Preserve and reuse historic buildings*
- *Enhance property values*
- *Foster local cultural development*

Meservey explained how Orleans has complied with some of the District Requirements on a State Readiness Quiz developed to help communities determine if they will meet the requirements for requesting a MA Cultural District designation:

District Requirement:	Completed
Defined District boundary	✓
District is compact enough to be walkable	✓
Concentration of cultural facilities, activities, and assets	✓
Partnership in place to provide oversight and management	✓
Broad set of organizations in support of cultural, community and economic development	✓
Hold a public hearing regarding proposed district	Not completed
Town resolution committing to establish the district	Not completed

Meservey described the various community benefits from having the MA Cultural District designation and Planning Board members discussed how to proceed. Andrea Shaw-Reed noted that many other Cape towns have applied for the MA Cultural District Designation and urged Planning Board members to move this forward.

Jon Fuller stated the Board of Selectmen does not usually favor signing proclamations and resolutions, and urged Planning Board members to do plenty of research before bringing the issue before the Board of Selectmen.

Steve Bournemeier left the meeting at this point

CONSENSUS: *Planning Board members agreed to move forward in researching how to qualify to file an application for a MA Cultural District Designation.*

ELDREDGE PARK BANNER SIGNS

Meservey reminded Planning Board members of the zoning change adopted at the Annual Town Meeting in May 2011 regarding the erection of off-premises banners for the tenant of Eldredge Field for non-profit sponsorship signs on the outfield and left field fences. Meservey pointed out that technically the left field fence is located on a separate parcel (off premises) within the State layout. Meservey stated that the Building Commissioner has requested an advisory opinion of whether the Planning Board intended to include all of the fences surrounding Eldredge Park.

MOTION: On a motion by **Andrea Shaw-Reed**, seconded by **John Fallender**, the Board voted advise the Building Commissioner that in their opinion the Zoning Bylaw section §164-35M intent regarding off premises banners should include all of Eldredge Park, including the portion of the fence located on the state property along Route 28.

VOTE: 3-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Orleans Community Partnership

Fallender gave a report on an upcoming Orleans Community Partnership organizational event at the Parish Hall of the Church of the Holy Spirit on March 21, 2012 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Reed reported on the development of a complete roster of non-profit organizations in Orleans and noted the ongoing process of creating and maintaining a unified calendar of community events.

NEW BUSINESS

Road Acceptance Review

Meservey pointed out the need for a Planning Board meeting on March 27, 2012 to deal with the issues of a request from the Board of Selectmen for a road acceptance review for the taking of Aspinet Way. Meservey stated that the Board of Selectmen request review and input from the Highway Manager and Planning Board before proceeding to a public hearing.

MOTION: On a motion by **John Fallender**, seconded by **Andrea Shaw-Reed**, the Board voted to hold the Planning Board meeting on March 27, 2012 to address the road taking issue.

VOTE: 3-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

Planning Board Meeting Cancellation

MOTION: On a motion by **John Fallender**, seconded by **Andrea Shaw-Reed**, the Board voted to cancel the May 8, 2012 Planning Board meeting due to a possible conflict with the Annual Town Meeting.

VOTE: 3-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Planning Board members acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

- Chapter 91 License – Bosley Pier, 34 Viking Road

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 14, 2012

MOTION: On a motion by **John Fallender**, seconded by **Andrea Shaw-Reed**, the Board voted to approve the minutes of February 14, 2012.

VOTE: 3-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: On a motion by **John Fallender**, seconded by **Andrea Shaw-Reed**, the Board voted to adjourn at 7:42 p.m.

VOTE: 3-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

SIGNED: _____


(Charles Bechtold, Clerk)

DATE: _____

3-27-12

LIST OF HANDOUTS FOR MARCH 13, 2012 PLANNING BOARD MEETING:

1. Memorandum to Town Administrator entitled, "Progress Report and Update: "Cove Road - Main Street Walkway", dated March 6, 2012.
2. Memorandum to Planning Board entitled, "MA Cultural District".
3. Memorandum from Building Commissioner entitled, "164-35 M Eldredge Park Sponsorship Banner Signs", dated February 22, 2012.
4. Letter from Ryder & Wilcox entitled, "Bosley Pier, 34 Viking Road, Orleans, MA", dated February 28, 2012.
5. Planning Board Minutes for February 14, 2012.