



ORLEANS TOWN CLERK
K. Darling, Asst
12 MAY 23 4:10PM

ORLEANS PLANNING BOARD

April 10, 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; **Clerk:** Charles Bechtold; and John Fallender; **Associate:** Andrea Reed. **Planning Department Staff:** George Meservey and **Secretary:** Karen Sharpless. **Also Present:** **Board of Selectmen Liaison:** Jon Fuller. **Absent:** **Associate:** Paul McNulty and Kenneth McKusick

The Chairman requested that Andrea Reed vote at the meeting in the absence of Kenneth McKusick.

SIGN SETBACK WAIVER - THE SPARROW STORE, 26 MAIN STREET

Robert Sparrow described the proposal to open a new store to be called The Sparrow Store (for the sale of clothing, and merchandise) which will replace The Baseball Shop at 26 Main Street. Sparrow has submitted a request for a waiver of the setback requirement in the Orleans Zoning Bylaws §164-35, I. (2) under the sign regulations. Meservey noted that the Building Commissioner is seeking a recommendation from the Planning Board for the setback waiver request. Meservey stated that similar waivers have been granted in the past.

MOTION: On a motion by **Steve Bornemeier**, seconded by **John Fallender**, the Board voted to grant the requested setback waiver for The Sparrow Store to be located at 26 Main Street.

VOTE: 5-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC TREE HEARING – NSTAR

Paul Sellers (NSTAR Arborist) described three circuit areas in town intended for tree trimming known as Circuit #628, #950 and #952. Sellers stated that it is the intention of NSTAR to prune trees around and under electrical wires. Sellers stated that there are no tree removals planned at the moment. Dan Connolly (Tree Warden) stated his approval of the request from NSTAR.

Beverly Fuller (184 Main Street) described problems in the past with tree cuttings not removed from private property and requested that Sellers review the work after it is performed.

Jon Fuller (184 Main) requested that all parties seriously consider the removal of locust trees and maple saplings under the wires.

Paul Sellers (NSTAR) stated that any trees over 1½" in diameter required obtaining permission from the Tree Warden and/or Planning Board at a public hearing. Sellers stated that NSTAR will address issues as necessary.

George Meservey noted that since NSTAR has a good working relationship with Dan Connolly (Tree Warden), work has progressed in a positive manner. Meservey noted that as the representative for NSTAR, Sellers has been very responsive to issues and/or complaints and the Town benefits from work done by NSTAR which might otherwise have to be done and funded by the Town.

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION: On a motion by **Chip Bechtold**, seconded by **Steve Bornemeier**, the Board voted to close the public hearing for NSTAR for Circuit #628, #950 and #952.

VOTE: 5-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION TO GRANT REQUEST

MOTION: On a motion by **Andrea Reed**, seconded by **John Fallender**, the Board voted to grant the request for tree trimming by NSTAR on the following Circuits: #628, #950 and #952.

VOTE: 5-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL DISTRICT DESIGNATION

Using a PowerPoint presentation, George Meservey described the goals and benefits of a designation as a Massachusetts Cultural District.

MA Cultural District Goals:

- 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

District Benefits:

- Tax credits for abandoned buildings
- Economic Development Incentive Program
- MA Downtown Initiative consulting services
- Adams Arts Program funding
- MA Cultural Council for arts program grants
- MA Cultural Facilities Fund
- Signs on State highways
- Transportation Enhancement Grants
- Complete Streets Initiative
- MA Office of Travel & Tourism website

<u>Cultural District Requirements:</u>	<u>Completed</u>
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

Comments:

Steve Bornemeier as representative of the Orleans Community Partnership stated his opinion that the designation as a MA Cultural District would greatly benefit the town.

Todd Bowman Ash agreed with Steve Bornemeier's comments.

Gordon Smith stated his agreement with the idea and asked if there would be any restrictions on existing businesses or developments in area? George Meservey responded there would be no restrictions on existing businesses.

Bob Summersgill agreed with Todd Ash's comments and indicated that the benefits are free and the town which should move forward with the proposal. Summersgill stated that the Historical Society agrees with the idea.

John Fallender stated that the Academy of Performing Arts agrees with the idea.

Beverly Fuller (Vice President of the Historical Society) described the initiation of upcoming celebrations of the anniversary of the War of 1812, and stated her intention to request that the Orleans Board of Selectmen designate August as Orleans Heritage Month.

Todd Bowman Ash stated that the designation will be good promotion for the town.

Jon Fuller encouraged the Planning Board to move forward with the idea.

Andrea Reed noted that this will be a long-term commitment to keep up maintenance of the town.

Chip Bechtold asked if there would be any conflicts with the Orleans Community Partnership. Steve Bornemeier responded that the Orleans Community Partnership will be looking for private funding, not municipal.

MOTION: On a motion by **John Fallender**, seconded by **Chip Bechtold**, the Board voted to recommend that the Board of Selectmen hold a public hearing regarding designation of Orleans as a MA Cultural District.

VOTE: 5-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Community Preservation Committee

Bornemeier reported that the Board of Selectmen endorsed the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee to be included on the town meeting warrant.

Orleans Community Partnership

Fallender gave an explanation of sharrows which are road markings to allow for road sharing of vehicles and bicycles. Fallendar stated the hope that brochures will be distributed around town and to bicycles shops by Memorial Day.

NEW BUSINESS

Planning Board Meeting Cancellation

MOTION: On a motion by **John Fallender**, seconded by **Steve Bornemeier**, the Board voted to cancel the Planning Board meeting on April 24, 2012 due to a conflict with Candidate's Night.

VOTE: 5-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 27, 2012

MOTION: On a motion by **Andrea Reed**, seconded by **Steve Bornemeier**, the Board voted to approve the minutes of March 27, 2012, as amended.

VOTE: 4-0-1 The motion passed by a majority. (Chet Crabtree abstained).

ADJOURNMENT

The Planning Board adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

SIGNED: _____


(Charles Bechtold, Clerk)

DATE: _____

22 May 12

LIST OF HANDOUTS FOR APRIL 10, 2012 PLANNING BOARD MEETING:

1. Memorandum from Planning Director entitled, "Sign Setback Waiver Request", dated April 4, 2012.
2. Public Tree Hearing Notice for NSTAR with supporting materials.
3. Planning Board Minutes for March 27, 2012.