

**STURBRIDGE PLANNING BOARD
MINUTES OF
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2013**

Ms. Gibson-Quigley called the regular meeting of the Planning Board to order at 6:30 PM. On a roll call by Ms. Dumas the following members were present:

Present: James Cunniff
Penny Dumas
Heather Hart
Susan Waters
Sandra Gibson-Quigley, Chair

Also Present: Jean M. Bubon, Town Planner
Diane Trapasso, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Charlie Blanchard
Russell Chamberland

Ms. Gibson-Quigley opened the meeting and read the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Made by Mr. Cunniff to accept the minutes of February 12, 2013
2nd: Ms. Hart
Discussion: None
Vote: 5 – 0

REVIEW DRAFT SIGN BYLAW

Ms. Gibson-Quigley stated that the subcommittee made up of Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Chamberland and Ms. Hart, has been working with Ms. Bubon to amend the Sign Bylaw.

Ms. Hart stated that they have been meeting regularly to update the sign bylaw by making it simpler to understand and in better order.

The Board had the following edits:

- Definitions – keep the spelling of thru throughout the definition
- Exemptions 22.03 (j) – define public art
- Exemptions 22.03 (l) – check with Kopelman & Paige – can and should be regulated
- Prohibited Signs 22.04 © - remove quotations
- Prohibited Signs 22.04 (d) change (o) to (n)

- Prohibited Signs 22.04 (j) "Christmas Light" should be changed to Holiday Colored String Lights
- Charts need to be better labeled
- New Chapter 22.05.5 – Special Permit – would like to see stronger wording that it is not by right but can be denied – combine # 1 & #9
- Type, Number & Size 22.07.1 (e) - sandwich board – have a sunset clause – existing grandfathered for 18 months then after that old ones are gone
- Sandwich boards for civic, charitable or religious organizations
- Temporary Signs 22.08 – remove in last sentence – torn, ragged, faded and sagging
- Grand Opening Signs 22.09 – change Re-Grand Opening to Grand Re-Opening

Ms. Bubon stated that if the Board is comfortable with making these edits and would like to be the petitioner for this bylaw and forward the bylaw to the BOS to begin the process. Ms. Bubon also stated that the Board will still have the opportunity to edit this bylaw at the Public Hearing since you the Board will be the petitioner.

The Board was not comfortable with this procedure and would like to review the edits at the next Planning Board meeting, which is March 12, 2013 before sending it to the BOS.

Mr. Creamer, Chair of the BOS, stated that the BOS will hold an extra meeting on March 13, 2013 in order to vote and start the process for the Public Hearing.

TOWN PLANNER UPDATE

New Boston Road Sub-Committee will meet February 27, 2013 to work on the draft bylaw

CMRPC Annual Assessment

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting date is March 12, 2013 at Center Office Building.

On a motion made by Mr. Cunniff seconded by Ms. Waters and voted 5 – 0, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

