

**STURBRIDGE PLANNING BOARD
MINUTES OF
TUESDAY, MARCH 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: Charlie Blanchard
Russell Chamberland
James Cunniff
Penny Dumas
Heather Hart
Susan Waters
Sandra Gibson-Quigley, Chair

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Made by Mr. Chamberland to accept the minutes of March 12, 2013
2nd: Mr. Cunniff
Discussion: None
Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 (Ms. Dumas)

TOWN PLANNER UPDATE

New Boston Sub-Committee met March 22nd. The committee will have edits ready for the Public Hearing on April 2nd.

Village Gateway District & Sign Bylaw are being reviewed by Attorney Eichman.

Ms. Bubon stated that Attorney Eichman will likely propose that the sign bylaw be broken into sections on the warrant so that the sections that have not been re-written, but maybe have just re-numbered are reflected that way.

Ms. Bubon stated that Mr. Eichman will also have edits to make the bylaw content be neutral.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED ZONING BYLAW ON A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON MEDICAL MARIJUANA CENTERS

Materials presented:

Medical Marijuana Moratorium – Zoning Bylaw

Ms. Dumas read the legal notice.

Ms. Gibson-Quigley stated that during the moratorium period the Town shall undertake a planning process to address the potential impacts of medical marijuana in the Town, consider the Department of Public Health regulations regarding Medical Marijuana Treatment Facilities and related uses, and shall consider adopting new Zoning Bylaws to address the impact and operations of Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers and related uses.

Ms. Bubon stated that at the CPTC Conference, she attended a workshop on Medical Marijuana presented by Attorney Doyle. Ms. Bubon stated that the Department of Public Health will publish draft regulations and open a period for public comment on March 29th.

Ms. Bubon stated that by May 24th, there may be regulations to follow.

Ms. Bubon stated that the Attorney General’s office rules against bans. The Attorney General disapproved the Wakefield bylaw banning MMTCs outright. In disapproving this bylaw, the Attorney General determined such a ban would frustrate the Act’s purpose and therefore conflict with state law.

Motion: Made by Ms. Dumas to close the Public Hearing.
2nd: Mr. Blanchard
Discussion: None
Vote: 7 – 0

Motion: Made by Ms. Dumas to support the proposed Zoning Bylaw on a Temporary Moratorium on Medical Marijuana Centers.
2nd: Ms. Hart
Discussion: None
Vote: 7 - 0

BT’s SMOKEHOUSE – UPDATE ON LANDSCAPING PLAN

Mr. Treitman stated that the planter on the side of the building will contain cascade hops. They grow very well here from early spring to late fall. Pioneer Brewing will harvest the hops in the fall and will cut back the vines.

Mr. Treitman also, stated that the white picket fence and planters will be removed in winter because of the snow and plowing.

The Board had the following questions and concerns:

- Will the cables be removed when the vines are cut down? – Mr. Treitman stated that when the hops are harvested and cut down the cables are also taken down
- Question the fence – Mr. Treitman stated that the fence will be plastic and 18" high, supported by the planters
- Fire Hydrant – Mr. Treitman stated that the planters and fencing is clear of the fire hydrant

Ms. Gibson-Quigley read the email from MR. T. Chamberland, Tree Warden approving Mr. Treitman's landscaping plan.

The Board thanked Mr. Treitman for his well thought out landscaping plan.

Motion: Made by Mr. Blanchard to support BT's Smokehouse updated landscaping plan.

2nd: Mr. Cunniff

Discussion: None

Vote: 7 - 0

TOWN PLANNER UPDATE

Special Town Meeting warrant articles needed by March 27th

Ms. Bubon meeting with the Finance Committee on April 2nd to review the budget

CTDWG meeting on April 3, 2013 at 6:30 PM

Public Forum possible date May 5 and May 15

Ms. Bubon stated that there is no signed contract with Pare Corporation, yet.

The Board asked why not?

Ms. Bubon stated just waiting for the Town Administrator to make the final review and sign it.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting date is April 2, 2013 at Town Hall.

On a motion made by Mr. Chamberland, seconded by Ms. Hart voted 7 – 0, the meeting adjourned at 7:20PM.