

Sutton Planning Board
Minutes
December 1, 2008

Approved _____

Present: R. Largess, Chairman, S. Hughes, S. Paul, D. Moroney, W. Whittier
Staff: J. Hager, Planning Director

General Business:

Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of 11/17/08, D. Moroney
2nd: W. Whittier
Vote: 4-0-0

(R. Largess arrives)

Worm's Way field change: J. Hager explained a minor field change moving handicap spaces to the west two spaces in order to meet ADA grade requirements. The spaces will still be within 50 feet of the door.

Motion: To approve the field change to shift handicap spaces to the west, D. Moroney
2nd: W. Whittier
Vote: 5-0-0

National Grid line improvements discussion: Dave McIntyre and Dave Beron were present from national grid to review line upgrades planned for the area. The Interstate Reliability Project is meant to eliminate power bottlenecks that exist in the area. They will be dismantling existing high-tension towers within several easements and installing new towers with 345,000 v transmission lines. They presented simulations of the changes. The height of old and new towers is approximately equal. They will also be installing some gating to inhibit ATV use.

S. Hughes asked if issues with towers on mounds that have been excavated would be rectified. These mounds will be leveled and the towers re-established. S. Paul asked if any new plants or plant upgrades are planned as part of the Project. Mr. McIntyre stated no plants or plant upgrades are proposed. The issue is mainly getting power from one location to another.

Line construction will not start until 2010. They don't intend to start permitting until February of 2009. They have held numerous public outreach sessions and outreach is on-going. They noted the DPU process requires public hearings within the area of upgrades and notification to effected parties.

The Board noted they would welcome any opportunity to locate public safety communication equipment on the towers if feasible and helpful to the communications system.

It was agreed that as the power line use has long been established at these locations, a Special Permit for the use would not be required. The majority of the Board also felt Site Plan Review would not be necessary although S. Hughes thought changes in tower configuration should go through the process and R. Largess agreed it would just be one more opportunity for abutters. A meeting will be scheduled with the Building Commissioner to finalize what permitting will be required.

Form A Plans - None

Correspondence – The Board reviewed various correspondence.

Public Hearing - Retreat Lot – Judson – 49 Putnam Hill Road

The Chairman read the hearing notice as it appeared in The Chronicle.

D. Lavallee of Andrews Survey & Engineering review the plans for the 21+ acre retreat lot with 85'+ feet of frontage on Putnam Hill Road.

The Board reviewed departmental comments. The tax collector's reported taxes due.

Joyce Smith of 35 Bond Hollow Road Dennis Ditto of 361 Boston Road asked various questions.

Motion: To grant the Special Permit for the retreat lot shown on the plan dated 10/14/08 with the following conditions: D. Moroney

1. Approval of all other local, state and federal departments, boards and commissions
2. The access from the frontage of said lot to the principal structure (driveway) shall be of bituminous surface, no greater than twelve percent (12%) grade with a minimum paved width of twelve (12) feet and cleared width of fifteen (15) feet.
3. The house number shall be visible at the street.
4. Underground utilities shall be required.
5. Prior to Plan endorsement all taxes shall be paid.

2nd: S. Paul

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion: To close the hearing, S. Hughes

2nd: D. Moroney

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion: To Adjourn, S. Hughes

2nd: S. Paul

Vote: 6-0-0

Adjourned 7:50 P.M.