

Planning Board
Parking Committee
June 21, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Members attending: Roger Murray, Chip Maxfield, Jennifer Haskell, Rob Houseman, Kathy Barnard

Kathy Barnard opened the meeting at 8:30 AM.

The purpose of the Parking Committee is to review sections of the Parking ordinance and determine if some sections should be in the site plan review regulations rather than the ordinance. This approach may give the Planning Board more flexibility when determining parking requirements for certain uses. It would also address smart growth principals, encourage walking and address some environmental issues.

Rob Houseman reviewed some of the proposed changes. The specific standards such as parking spaces sizes, landscaping, snow removal, etc. would remain in the ordinance. The parking multiplier (number of spaces for specific uses) probably needs more flexibility. We need to consider certain parking needs for a smaller community and not rely on ITE standards. The Wolfeboro parking requirements have not been changed since the early 1990s and need to be reviewed. Roger Murray asked if we are moving in the right direction –taking the parking standards out of the ordinance. The Planning Board needs standards in order to act consistently. Too much flexibility may not be the way to proceed.

There was a general discussion about the parking issues, especially the parking issues in the downtown area. Roger Murray and Chip Maxfield discussed the numerous studies they have been involved in and the lack of action.

There was a discussion about possible solutions to the downtown parking problems. Rob Houseman indicated that some of the parking issues were not issues the Planning Board could address. Instead some of the issues need to be addressed by the Board of Selectmen.

Committee members determined that the focus of the committee could be on all of the parking issues and the committee could consider making specific recommendations to the BOS.

The committee members agreed that we should include the Chamber and Downtown merchants in future discussions.

For the next meeting Committee members will review the parking requirements for Portsmouth, Hanover, Durham, Burlington, Newmarket and Sebago in order to determine if there are sections in those regulations that would work well for Wolfeboro.

The next meeting will be held at 8:00AM, July 12, 2010 in The Hunt Room at the Wolfeboro Inn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35AM.

Submitted by
Kathy Barnard
June 21, 2010