

## GROTON PLANNING BOARD

March 30, 2016

Meeting Called to Order: 7:10 pm

Present: Chair Deborah Johnson, Ray Blake, Dave LeBar, Glen Hansen, Russ Carruth, Elizabeth Jespersen, Sherry Nelson (Alternate) Steven (Slim) Spafford

Absent: Bob Ferriere (Select Board Liaison)

Minutes of Last Meeting (2/24/16) read aloud by Chair with suggested changes as noted per Deb. Additional changes were added to Para 4 as follows. 'Celine inquired whether or not he (Mr. Sharp) had a lease with Mr. Madden to which he replied, 'No'. Also change, 'She' to 'Deb'.

Ray voiced concern for himself and approximately 15 other area residents over Mr. Sharp's 7 day a week, 24 hr a day chainsaw use. Discussion ensued and it was decided that Ray will gather either a petition or letter from concerned residents to present to the Board at which time the Board will then proceed with a courtesy letter to Mr. Sharp as to his hours and days of operation as he had laid out during his meeting with the Board on 2/24/16.

Ray motioned to accept the Minutes as Amended, Dave 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Passed Unanimously.

Nominations for the 2016 Planning Board were submitted and unanimously approved as follows: Deborah Johnson, Chair; Elizabeth Jespersen, Secretary.

Several requirements for the behavior of Board Members were reviewed for the benefit of the new members. Highlighted was the requirement that we can't call each other pertaining to Board business. Also a reminder that no one person makes decisions for the Planning Board as it is to be done by the entire Board.

Deb will check on the legal requirement for posting of the Agenda. If allowable, it will be given to Sara Smith for posting on the Website. Further, members will receive the Agenda via email the weekend prior to the monthly meeting date along with any collateral documents for review. Because Ray and Glenn do not have email it was decided that Deb will leave copies at her house, NANA in Bristol and copies given to Sara. It will be their responsibility to obtain them prior to meeting. Elizabeth also volunteered to take 2 copies to the Town Garage old mailbox.

Hard copies of all regulations will be kept in the Planning Board cabinet, upstairs in the Town Hall.

Deb requested that any member not able to attend a meeting notify her in advance.

For the benefit of the new members it was discussed as to how information was gathered for the new Master Plan. It was pointed out that they used the Old Master Plan; 2 surveys mailed to residents; a Focus Session in 2012; Steve Whitman & Dan Sundquist mapping info of Groton; Cost of Community Services study complete prior to Iberdrola and Maxam; Master Plan committee; North Country Council and Boyd Smith from Newfound Lakes Region were all sources used to formulate the plan. The board decided to do a more comprehensive plan this time while also making it easier to add future updates as a means of maintaining the Master Plan.

Deb will have a draft of the Master Plan complete before the next meeting. We will then have the entire Plan to go through and make any updates as needed. If we need any further work sessions they will be scheduled in May before proceeding forward. After that, a Public Hearing will be properly announced via Newspaper and posted signs at the Town House and Transfer Station.

The Board agreed to give a copy of the *Historical* section to the Historical Society for review at their next meeting. A copy of the *Transportation and Roads* section was given to Glen for review. We were reminded by Dave that the Board previously agreed and voted to change the name of *Transportation and Roads* to just *Roads* in the new Master Plan.

Deb passed out copies of a letter from Boyd Smith of the Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA) informing us of a series of upcoming public workshops to educate residents in local land-use planning. Sometime in June there will be a separate session with Groton. Deb will let us know the date as soon as it becomes available.

There is also an upcoming OEP workshop on June 4. Depending on availability of board funds we will consider sending members to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual workshop in Concord.

Deb then distributed copies of an email she received today at 4:05 from Sara Smith regarding years of notes with Mr. Ethier. She has no idea what, if anything, the Select Board wants the Planning Board to do with this information. Deb will email Sara for clarification and to see if there is a current issue on the table.

Much discussion was heard regarding Mr. Ethier. Since it has been an ongoing issue for years the Planning board wants to be clear who has authority over the Intent to Cut (Select Board), Excavation (Planning Board), and Gravel Tax (DES). Because the Select Board didn't back the Planning Board in the past, legal action was dropped. We would need assurance that the Select Board would enforce a *Cease and Desist* order if we were to move forward under our authority. We would also need to see if we have the financial means to support legal action.

Seeing that there is no other business, Deb asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm. Glenn so moved, Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Jespersen