

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
PLANNING BOARD
April 28, 2021
TOWN HALL & VIRTUAL MEETING
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Kenneth Smith, Chairman
George Oleen
Dale Martin
Sari Hoy
Caitlin Marsden McNeill

Others Present: Members of the Public
Lori Neil, Administrative Assistant

Chairman Kenneth Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ANR Requests – No ANR's

Approval of Minutes: The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes of April 14, 2021.
G. Oleen made a motion to approve the minutes as written. C. McNeill seconded the motion, the motion carried 4-0.

Sari Hoy entered the meeting at 7:01PM

Chairman Smith reviewed the mail:

And read a letter from a concerned citizen, regarding

Board Member Items: Sari Hoy mentioned the 5G and placing an article in the Sheffield Times to explain why the 5G is should be added to the bylaws. The Board discussed Nina Anderson preparing this for the Sheffield Times.

The Bull Hill property was discussed. It falls in the Historic District of Ashley Falls.

G. Oleen requested to have the Planning Board meetings at the Town Park. Chairman Smith mentioned there would need to be a virtual way to participate as well. C. M. McNeill asked if the 5G was set to go into the July Warrant. Chairman Smith stated it was going to Town Counsel for review. The Planning Board will then need to hold the public hearing on the 5G. It was discussed to have a tentative public hearing on May 26.

D. Martin mentioned there were questions from a citizen regarding the 5G effect on bees. C. M. McNeill mentioned there have been concerns and inquiries about bees in the US and regarding sheep in the UK.

Chairman Smith read a memo from the Select Board. A citizen's petition has been submitted to the town to change Zoning Bylaw section 7.5.4.1.6. The number of marijuana retailers permitted to be located in the Town of Sheffield shall not exceed 3 and the outdoor locations shall not

exceed 5. This petition will depend on how many signatures are received certified to change our bylaw, to limit the outdoor cultivation. The Planning Board can show support or the Planning Board can abstain. A public hearing will need to be held, it will then go to a special town meeting. Chairman Smith also asked to have this public hearing on May 26 at the Town Park and Virtual.

The next meeting is May 12 and will be held at Town Park and Virtual. Chairman Smith asked all to follow the CDC recommendations that are required at that time.

Chairman Smith mentioned; on May 26, the 5G hearing will be start at 7pm and the public hearing for the citizen's petition will start at 7:05pm.

Board Member Items: Chairman Smith mentioned a couple things he wanted to follow up on. One was Berkshire Fence and the other was from the Public Community Outreach meeting that was held on Silver Street. There was discussion of the number of indoor and outdoor cannabis facilities.

Lauren Hyde asked why her email had not been read. She said she had asked if anyone from the Planning Board wanted to attend or to be on her advisory committee. Chairman Smith stated, to be clear, Lauren was not asked to organize this committee. Lauren has reached out for her community. Chairman Smith stated; he thought it was clear from the last meeting that the Select Board and the Planning Board are not interested in making changes in the bylaw. If the public wants to see changes they are welcome to start a group and the Select Board and Planning Board would be supportive. L. Hyde stated, Rene Wood did reach out and their first meeting has already been held. L. Hyde questioned why was Betsy Garcia's mail was read and hers was not. G. Oleen suggested to L. Hyde to hold her meeting in person with L. Hyde responding, it may not be possible due to her other commitments and children to care for.

Bob McKenzie spoke. He said he is a newcomer to the marijuana facilities. He asked if there is a tally that shows what and where the marijuana establishments are. Is this something that can be viewed or does it already exist? Chairman Smith stated he knows the Select Board was looking into this and he will check the status.

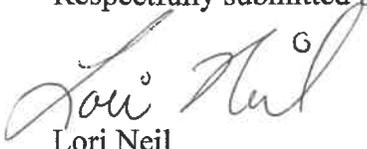
Chairman Smith announced this was Dale Martin's last meeting on the Planning Board. He and the Board thanked Dale for his years of service to the town.

Again, the next meeting will be Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 7PM at the Sheffield Town Park and Virtual.

G. Oleen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. D. Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5-0.

Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lori Neil". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Lori Neil

Administrative Assistant

Supporting Documents:

Draft Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2021

Memo from Select Board

Mail: