

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD  
PLANNING BOARD  
November 19, 2021  
6:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Chairman Smith  
George Oleen  
Sari Hoy  
Robbie Cooper  
Caitlin McNeill

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

Chairman Smith opened the public hearing at 6:00 pm.

Chairman Smith began by apologizing to L. Hyde and the Citizen's committee that has been working diligently on the articles. He acknowledged the Planning Board did receive the articles on Sept, 22, 2021. He did not realize they were to be filed with the Town Clerk 9 days later. Once it has been filed with the Town Clerk the discussion period comes to an end. It has to go before the Town as presented, to the Clerk. This is one step in the process. Chairman Smith made a second apology to the Board and public as to how the last meeting turned out and proceeded to announce how the hearing will proceed. Chairman Smith mentioned, there is still time to discuss amendments to the articles. He said he understands if the group feels they want to continue and go through with it. But we still have time to discuss and come together with a unified front to the town meeting with any possible small changes that we might work through together.

**1.) Public Hearing: Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 5 of the Massachusetts General Laws to amend the Sheffield Zoning Bylaw Section 7.5.5.2.13, 7.5.4.2.4, 7.5.6 and 7.5.7.2, Adult Use Marijuana Establishment.** Chairman Smith and the Board reviewed the documents and opened the floor to Catherine Miller. C. Miller started by saying the comments that she is about to make of the proposed bylaw pertains to the future. It does not pertain to anything that has been approved or in operation up to this time. Secondly, the people who wrote the original bylaws were put in a difficult position. The new work is an honest effort to enhance the work that has already been done. The bylaw proposal pertains to the subject of odor. C. Miller read the proposed bylaw change.

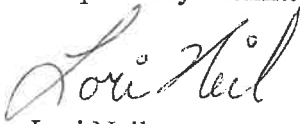
C. Miller spoke to say she would be open and if the Planning Board truly wants to be involved, she personally would love to be engaged with that process. Chairman Smith read a letter of non-support from Rene Wood acting as a private citizen. S. Hoy stated; there are some great changes but there are also some challenging ones. She stated; she agrees with R. Wood on not knowing how they would be implemented or followed upon.

R. Cooper mentioned that he would like to volunteer himself to sit down, have a discussion, and find a middle ground. He stated; he understand the concern for odor control but is also concerned about the red-tape and worried that it may be overly aggressive for some of the applicants.

C. McNeill said she seconds what R. Cooper had said. She is more than willing to dedicate time and effort to participate in any meetings. She stated; one of my concerns is that we set the bar so high in terms of odor mitigation that we open ourselves up as a town for liability. We approved marijuana for the town and we are putting ourselves in a position that the bar is so high, that we cannot attain it.

**Adjournment: G. Oleen made a motion to close the public hearing. C. McNeill seconded the motion. Motion carried, 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.**

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Neil".

Lori Neil  
Administrative Assistant

**Supporting Documents:**

Meeting Agenda

Citizens Petition Article 1 Hearing Documents