

Planning Board Minutes
February 9, 2022
7 pm
Virtual Meeting

Board members Present: Kenneth Smith, Chairman
George Oleen
Robbie Cooper
Sari Hoy
Caitlin Marsden McNeill

Others present: Members of the Public

Chairman called the meeting to order.

- 1) ANR Requests – None
- 2) Approval of Draft minutes: G. Oleen made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by R. Cooper. The motion carried 4-0. S. Hoy arrived after the vote.
- 3) Discussed amendments to the Citizen's petitions labeled Article 1 and 2 – S. Hoy stated that everything looks great in terms of the amendments made to Article 1 and that other amendments were discussed but not included. S. Hoy suggested that the Board review the changes to make it consistent and enforceable. Catherine Miller said that the dialogue between the Citizen's Group (CG) and members of the Planning Board was successful and she was hoped the remaining members of the Board would be supportive.

S. Hoy discussed Article 2 regarding the Table of Use changes in an attempt to protect residential areas. Catherine Miller stated that she would be willing to return Article 2 to original form if the Board could come to an agreement with some of the protections for residential areas. Chairman Smith stated that the Board could add some location categories to 7.5.4.3. G. Oleen discussed existing businesses that are grandfathered and distance requirements. C. McNeill brought up Great Barrington Airport as example of grandfathered businesses regarding someone moving in and shouldn't have the right to complain about the business. C. McNeill said setting limits and being extremely clear will be helpful and protect the rural district and village center. There was discussion about which items would be on the March 7th town meeting. Chairman Smith suggested further conversation should take place regarding specific distance requirements.

- 4) Planning Board Rules & Regulations vs. Special Permit Application: Nothing at this time.
- 5) Mail review – No mail was available for review.

- 6) Board member items: S. Hoy discussed the possibility of creating an excel spreadsheet to track specific cannabis business locations because there has been some confusion as to how many are in operation. Discussion continued regarding the terms of the Host Community Agreements. Chairman Smith discussed Canna Provisions site on Route 7 and their outdoor grow. Discussion continued regarding revenue for cannabis businesses. Lauren Hyde discussed how Great Barrington was using their community impact fees. R. Cooper asked about Canna Provisions on Route 7 and what they are able to do because they are grandfathered pre-bylaw and if there were any other businesses that had that kind of flexibility. K. Smith discussed some of the other businesses and said that this is where the easily accessible spreadsheet would be helpful.

G. Oleen brought up the Dark Skies Bylaw draft that he had created.

- 7) Public inquiries – None.

G. Oleen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by S. Hoy. The motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:17pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Robbie Cooper

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Robbie Cooper', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.