



Town of Sandisfield

Sandisfield Planning
Board Committee
October 10, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Agenda:

1. Meeting call to order-remind people that the meeting is being recorded
2. Approved August and September minutes and warrants
3. Jeff Bye to report on Zoning, Cannabis and Camping bylaw.
4. Paul Gaudette to report on his conversation with lawyer.
- 5 Any business not discussed within 48 hours
6. Adjourn

In attendance:

Paul Gaudette, Acting Chair person

Members: Jeff Bye, Lisa Leavenworth, Bill Taylor

Secretary: Gina Colelli

Arrived after 8:30

Barbara Cormier, Chairperson

Minutes

- 1) Meeting called to order by Paul Gaudette @ 6:40 PM
- 2) a) Warrants signed by Paul Gaudette acting Chair-Gina Colelli payroll.
b) 8/8/23 Minutes corrected and approved. Lisa Leavenworth moved to approve. Jeff Bye seconded. Minutes signed
9/12/23 minutes. Moved to approve Bill Taylor, Lisa Leavenworth seconded. Minutes signed
c) Notice of Public Hearing from New Marlborough read
- 3) Jeff Bye- Cannabis bylaws went into effect 5/22 when approved by town vote
Massachusetts Attorney General disapproved parts of the by law-
 - a) 50 acreage requirement- AG said no to that
the 50 acre requirement passed by town vote was critical piece to getting approval.
 - b) Use fee can not be instituted under Massachusetts law. Another critical piece of the by law passed by town vote.

The options available to the town are the following:

- a) To return to the town the option to ban all commercial cultivation.
To go over the bylaw with the Sandisfield town attorney
to ban commercial cannabis by adding an amendment to the existing bylaw.

b) Jeff Bye suggested what he considers a simpler version - a proposal to withdraw in the existing bylaw in its entirety.

We would be back to where we were. Then we could rewrite a cannabis bylaw

Discussion: Paul points out if the bylaw is withdrawn people would have to also approve banning cannabis cultivation

It would require 2 by law approvals-cannabis and zoning to ban commercial cultivation according to Paul evaluation

c) Discussion continued with modifying bylaw by taking out commercial cultivation and adding in AG changes. Committee members will review AG feedback and discuss next steps for the Annual Town Meeting in May, 2024.

4) Zoning by law

a) Definitions-

industrial -what is definition of “larger scale” operations
definitions need to be refined.

b) Zoning regulations and types of businesses chart was reviewed and updated by committee agreement.

c) Discussion on how to promote a village district and allow for home businesses. What are appropriate regulations that allow for development and tax revenue in the town.

5) Motion to adjourn at 9:20 by Lisa Leavenworth and seconded by Bill Taylor.