

Planning Board June 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Attending: Roger Kohler, Paul Gaudette, John Field, Bill Taylor

1. Meeting opened at 7 PM
2. Reorganize Planning Board
 - Roger nominated for Chair by Paul, John seconded. Unanimously voted in.
 - Bill Taylor nominated for Secretary by Roger, seconded by Paul. Unanimously voted in.

John will go to Berkshire Regional Planning Commission meetings in Pittsfield (Meets 3rd Thursday on North Street). It is the regional authority of planning boards from towns in the county; as a new member Bill may also go to learn about planning boards

3. Approval of minutes of meetings: April 13 minutes. No May meeting as no quorum
 - Roger moved to approve April 13 minutes. Paul seconded. Unanimously approved.

4. Discussion of SAMA Special Permit Application

- The board agrees that SB cancel Abby Road version before approving this one
- Need to meet the 30' setback for the 2 detention basins; appear to be 25' or so on the drawings on P. 148
- Need to be more specific on meeting the energy conservation and production suggestions
- regenerative practices: Mentions slow release fertilizers to feed soil/microbes rather than plants, but then says leave beds fallow over winter for soil to recover, rather than cover crops. Fallow beds with no plants do not recover but soil goes dormant and is less ready for spring growth of next crop than it would be with some winter cover crops.
- Need to demonstrate how they will make compost quickly over the winter. Without intensive management or a heat source, compost usually takes more than one winter season but also the next warm season (a full year) in which it will need a place on the plan for it to finish and deal with the odor. Outdoor composting will produce much odor outside the property lines.
- need more convincing proof of effectiveness of odor mitigation chemistry; is it hydroxyl, ozone (UV) or other?
- Proximity of federal land needs to not draw DEA/federal attention

Agenda items not anticipated 48 hours before: none selected, but a discussion ensued. Roger invited us to propose any shortly (week or so) before next meeting

- Bill asked about David Hubbard's idea to decide how to spend any infrastructure federal \$. Paul and Roger said this is being done by Brad et al to mitigate climate change effects on roads etc.
- Review sign bylaws: sandwich boards, seasonal signs, yard sales exemptions?
- Cannabis bylaws: discussed how to get input from those who voted no. What do they want to change? Should the SB propose the bylaw rather than change the one the PB wrote? Does the town not want one?
- Zoning: Village centers with different sign and setbacks?

5. no warrants

6. no mail, Town Hall Annex building locked after hours. Is there a way to have a lock box so PB can get mail after hours?