

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE PLANNING BOARD

NOVEMBER 28, 2012
FINAL MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Board members present: Ken Sullivan, John Kieley, Rose Lowry, and Mary Beth Ayvazian

Call to order by Lowry at 7:39 p.m.

Broadband Meeting Notice: Kieley and Sullivan reported they had attended a meeting sponsored by Southwest Region Planning Commission (SWRPC) on broadband internet service, which seemed sparsely attended by area towns and provided little new information or direction.

Phase 2 of CPG: Lowry said the deadline for applying for phase 2 grant monies from the Community Planning Grant was fast approaching, with applications due in mid-February. She indicated the board would have to decide soon about continuing to move forward.

Timing of Public Hearings: Lowry mentioned the extremely tight schedule the board was facing. She referred to a specific timetable developed by Pickman in regard to dates of upcoming meetings, timeframes for public hearings, and posting and publishing notices for the hearings. It was noted that in order to meet the publishing schedule of the Ledger-Transcript during the holiday season, the timeline was even tighter. Lowry said she will contact Lisa Murphy of SWRPC about the final regulatory review report. Kieley suggested once the report is obtained that board members review it individually before the next meeting. He also suggested an email reminder be sent out to all board members before every meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes to be approved included meeting dates of 10/18, 10/31, 11/07, and 11/21. Kieley made a motion to approve the first three dates as written. Lowry stated there was a procedural problem that needed to be addressed within the minutes of 10/18. She explained that Sullivan's motion regarding a suggested change to previous minutes (10/3), which resulted in a vote of 2 in favor and 4 abstaining, had not been a valid vote and his motion had not passed. Sullivan said he understood, and Kieley then offered an amended motion to approve the first three dates with one amendment to the minutes of 10/18, second by Ayvazian, and voted unanimously in favor.

There was then a lengthy discussion regarding the minutes of 11/21. Kieley and Lowry were in disagreement over the legality of this meeting due to lack of a quorum present. Kieley stated if there is no quorum present then a meeting should not be held, and Local Government Center (LGC) documents support this. He further stated that if the Planning Board continues to hold meetings of this nature, he as a Selectman would have to take action. Lowry said she had researched the issue online and then called LGC, where she obtained an opinion that this type of meeting is okay since it was properly posted, minutes were taken, and no business was conducted. Kieley said he felt from reading the minutes that business was conducted, and Lowry responded that the term "doing business" is a gray area. She suggested the board might address this by adding language within the Planning Board by-laws. Kieley stated the Planning Board is a great group that gets results, and urged maintaining propriety. Sullivan made a motion to have the 11/21 minutes remain as-is in a draft format and not be voted on, second by Kieley, and voted unanimously in favor.

Town Forum results: Lowry asked for comments and impressions from the results of the Nov 7th public forum, specifically those considered important to zoning. Topics of discussion included:

- A feeling of "leave this place alone"
- Explore possibility of Neighborhood Heritage District
- Open space identification and protection
- Support for trails network; address in zoning or Master Plan; involve ConCom
- Protection of water resources/wetlands/aquifers; water overlay district; no gas/mineral fracking

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- Route 101 corridor; discourage large commercial development
- Tighten up Site Plan Review
- Alter Village District boundaries; make amenable to small business use of existing buildings
- Speed/safety concerns; limit new roads piercing town lines (cut-through's)
- Possible ordinances for Steep Slopes and Dark Skies
- Elderly/affordable housing; transportation availability
- Agriculture; protections vs. restrictions; small farm momentum
- Require cisterns and conduit installation in new developments; encourage high speed internet
- Summary of survey & forum results: Keep things the same; protect what we have; enhance trails and recreation
- Important focuses: water and unprotected open land; fend off commercial development

Lowry will forward the top forum topics to Lisa Murphy and also request the final regulatory review report be made available. At the next meeting the board will deliberate on what if any zoning changes to consider, and then provide them to Murphy to do the actual writing. Sullivan will work on revising a section of the Large Wind Energy System (LWES) ordinance pertaining to protection of birds and wildlife.

Move to adjourn by Kieley, second by Ayvazian, and so voted at 9:06 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Betsy Perry

~ Next regularly scheduled meeting Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.~