

Planning Board Minutes March 21, 2017

Present: Chairman Pitney, Vice Chair Fletcher, Member Talbot, Member Raftery, Member Carmichael, Member Pearce and Member Cardillo.

Also at the meeting were: Anita Schwerner, Shirley Talbot, Susie and Stuart Hirshfield, Christine Rasmussen, Don Chabon, Joshua Peyron, Denny Alsop, Terry Flynn, Bob Tublitz

Chairman Pitney asked for a motion to accept the minutes from March 7th, Vice Chair Fletcher moved to accept the minutes as presented, Member Raftery seconded and the vote was: Chairman Pitney – Yes, Member Raftery – Yes, Member Carmichael – Yes, Member Talbot – Yes, Vice Chair Fletcher – Yes, Member Pearce – Yes, Member Cardillo – Abstain the motion carried. Chairman Pitney asked to hold off on approval of the minutes from February 21st. Member Fletcher had changes for the minutes and she would like to wait to review the minutes and have a motion at the next meeting.

Member Raftery went to a conference put on by the State Citizens Planners in Worcester. Those attending were town planners, people from zoning boards, city planners, and members of several planning boards from various towns. There were many different workshops being held to choose from. Member Raftery went to one on open meeting law and conflict of interest, another on how to hire consultants for a variety of different things. She also attended one on bike paths, also how to keep records and how people access them.

Member Pitney, Member Pearce and Member Fletcher met last Monday to discuss plans to revisit our zoning bylaws. A document was passed out which reiterated the purpose of our current zoning bylaws. The three members decided that there would be a small committee made up of two members from the Planning Board, and one member each from: Zoning Board of Appeals, Conservation, and Historic Preservation. Member Fletcher read the whole document out loud. Member Cardillo: Gives us a mission statement focused on the zoning bylaws, a good over view. Member Talbot: It is a good summary of purpose, which has already been written and sounds like a good start. Member Pearce asked if we wanted to have an alternate since the committee would be so small and not everyone will make all the meetings. Member Raftery: Ruth had suggested at our last meeting a seven member board, we may need to have several alternates. Member Pitney: since Ruth and Kate have already done a lot of the preliminary work he suggested that they co-chair the small committee with the alternate being Dominic. The committee would bring their recommendations to the Planning Board, if there is something to bring to the Town there would be a public hearing, and then it would go to Town meeting. There were many good suggestions from the audience. There was a long discussion on ways to get correspondence/information out to all those in the community. The committee will use zoning bylaws from surrounding communities for references. Member Pitney: this is a good starting point it is small and simple enough that some progress will start right away; work can get done relatively fast.

Chairman Pitney asked for a motion to adjourn, Member Fletcher moved to adjourn and Member Raftery seconded the vote was Chairman Pitney – Yes, Member Talbot - Yes, Member Raftery –

Yes, Member Fletcher – Yes, Member Pearce – Yes, Member Cardillo – Yes, and Member Carmichael – Yes, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jennifer Carmichael, Secretary