

Planning Board Minutes
November 21, 2017

Present: Chairman Pitney, Member Slosek, Member Raftery, Member Pearce, Vice-Chairman Fletcher, Member Talbot, Member Sauer and Jennifer Carmichael Secretary. Also at the meeting were: Tim Minkler, Ronald Brouker, Sean Ferry, Anita Schwerner, Stuart Hershfield and a few others who did not sign in.

Chairman Pitney opened the meeting and asked for a motion to approve the November 7th minutes. Member Raftery moved to accept the minutes and Member Pearce seconded, the vote was: Chairman Pitney – Yes, Member Slosek – Yes, Member Raftery – Yes, Member Pearce – Yes, Member Fletcher – Abstain, Member Talbot – Abstain, Member Sauer – Abstain, the motion carried.

Tim Minkler and Ron Brouker representing Gould Meadow discussed what was needed in putting a signpost by the parking area off Route 183. Being a member of the Gould Meadow Committee, Member Raftery recused herself. They would like a signpost at the south side of the entrance to the parking area. After looking at the bylaw they felt they were allowed to put a directional sign for parking and would like approval to put a sign before they have a sign designed. It was thought that Gould Meadow was owned by the Town. They asked about restrictions to the size of the sign, and the color. Member Fletcher asked that the sign be painted green with white lettering. They will return with a copy of the sign and sign permit application.

Marie spoke about the Select Board meeting. They would like the board to look at the historic bylaw and the 50-year buildings being historic, and other things in the historic bylaw. Most felt that things were going well with the historic commission. Several felt a 50-year-old building was too new to be historic. Look at the building to see historic significance rather than just the 50-year guide. They are looking for any changes people felt would better suit the bylaw. The 50-year is just a trigger, used by the Massachusetts Historical Society. There are several other factors used. Making it easier to demolish a building is not what Historic Preservation Commission does. Member Sauer who is also on the Historic Preservation Commission, felt the bylaw was well written and not something that needed to be changed. In the last three years they have said “no” to three people. From the meeting Member Raftery had the impression that the HPC felt the bylaw as it stands now was working well. Member Sauer felt there was one area that they identified. It is not the HPC that sends a denial to the Planning Board, it is up to the applicant if denied to come to the Planning Board. Member Sauer mentioned downtown is a historic district, correcting herself downtown is on the national historic district but not a local historic district.

Zoning bylaw review update, continue to review definitions, have had good input from residents, regional planning as well as from the State. Define commercial solar array, airports, car charging areas etc.

Member Pearce had a donor letter from Tanglewood that she handed out that mentioned they were going to landscape the entire property. The worry is the affect it could have on the watershed and the water that flows across the street and down the hill.

Chairman Pitney motioned to adjourn, Member Fletcher seconded the vote was Chairman Pitney – Yes, Member Slosek – Yes, Member Raftery – Yes, Member Pearce – Yes, Member Fletcher – Yes, Member Talbot – Yes, Member Sauer – Yes, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jennifer Carmichael, Secretary