

BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE
Town of Becket
557 Main Street
Becket, MA 01223

Minutes
October 4, 2017

PRESENT: Bylaw Review Committee: Jeanne Pryor, Chair; Ann Krawet; Bruce Garlow; George Roberts
ABSENT:
PUBLIC: Michael Lavery

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by the Chair.

Review minutes of the September 6, 2017 meeting

The minutes of the September 6, 2017 meeting were reviewed and approved as written on motion of A. Krawet, second of J. Pryor.

Outdoor Lighting Bylaw

The Committee reviewed the proposed changes to Sec. 2 Applicability. On motion of A. Krawet, second of J. Pryor, the following wording change was approved to the last paragraph of Sec. 2 Applicability as noted below:

Although this bylaw does not address street lighting, we encourage the Town to pursue other means of bringing those lights into conformance: **the Selectmen to address the establishment of a street lighting policy to include filing a written request with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation or with any utility company responsible for installing and maintaining streetlights on municipal or state roads, asking that any newly installed or replacement streetlights be fully shielded and, if LED, use a correlated color temperature of 2700 Kelvin.**

Dog Control Bylaw

Jeanne reported that on 9/19/17 she emailed Ed Gibson a copy of the final revisions to the Dog Control Bylaw for inclusion on the next town meeting warrant. She noted that the revised Dog Control Bylaw reflects the Committee's response to Town Counsel's comments. The Committee's intention is to keep in the Town's bylaw those changes to the state law, such as definitions, that are new and that will provide the Animal Control Officer and residents with enough information so that the need to refer to the MGL is lessened. The Bylaw was received by Mr. Gibson. Michael noted that a Special Town Meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Selectmen's Policies request

Jeanne reported that on 9/18/17 she emailed Ed Gibson noting that the Bylaw Review Committee had reviewed a listing of Selectmen's policies that the Committee received from the Selectmen's Secretary and those that Jeanne had researched by reviewing Selectmen's minutes from 1/7/2009-8/2/2017. The Committee asked that the Selectmen be contacted to see if they want to revisit for approval the policies for which we either have no date of approval or copy of the policy. The Committee's intent is to have on hand all approved Selectmen/Town policies so that we can refer to them when working on new and/or existing Bylaws. We have not yet received a response. A copy of the email will be sent to Mr. Lavery.

Review of General Bylaws

Jeanne suggested that the Committee work on reviewing the General Bylaws over the next months while she is away and we only have two voting members. It was agreed that the review would include ensuring that the formatting is consistent throughout the Bylaws using the convention developed and used in

Article 1. Town Meetings of the current version of the General Bylaws dated 4/5/14 and also review for typographical errors. Formatting of sections and headings can be worked on later. George will provide the Committee with a copy of the most recent version of the General Bylaws for this review.

Any other business to come before the Committee per G.L. c. 30A, § 20(b)

George distributed copies of the Attorney General's letter dated 10/4/2017 approving Article 27 from the May 13, 2017 ATM, Section 22 Vacant Properties.

Bruce reminded the Committee that we should address the 9/7/17 email from Richard Moss of Camp Lenox and the suggested language in the Outdoor Lighting Bylaw that he and the directors of Camps Greylock and Watitoh would like us to review. The Committee agreed that the concern about keeping recreational lights on past 10 p.m. could be addressed by seeking approval from the BOS per Section 2. Following further discussion of their concerns, the following changes were approved to Sections 2. (labeling sub sections as A.-G.) and 7. as noted below by motion of A. Krawet, second of J. Pryor:

2. Applicability

The requirements of this bylaw shall apply to outdoor lighting on all lots and parcels, residential, commercial and non-profit, but shall not apply to:

- A. street lighting,
- B. seasonal holiday lighting/temporary lighting (limited to a 60-day period),
- C. lighting during special events such as fairs, concerts, celebrations sponsored by the Town of Becket or approved by the Board of Selectmen;
- D. public athletic fields,
- E. outdoor recreational lighting, which must be turned off by 10:00 p.m., or at the conclusion of a competition begun before 10:00 p.m. In no case may the lighting remain on after midnight, unless approved by the Board of Selectmen.
- F. light fixtures with a lighting output of less than 1000 lumens (a 60 watt incandescent or a 15 watt compact fluorescent lamp),
- G. lights that control traffic, or for public safety on streets and ways.

Section 7. Compliance

When an existing outdoor lighting fixture is being modified, extended, expanded, or added to, outdoor lighting shall be subject to this section. All other outdoor lighting fixtures, with the exception of those listed in **subsection A. and G.** of Section 2., must come into conformance with this section within **5 10** years of its effective date.

Jeanne will notify Mr. Moss of the changes. Jeanne will provide Mr. Lavery with a copy of the document entitled Becket Board of Selectmen Policies and Procedures.

Next meeting date and adjournment

The next meeting was scheduled for April 18, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. By motion of A. Krawet, second of J. Pryor, the meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

List of documents discussed and/or distributed at meeting:

- Minutes of the September 6, 2017 meeting
- Outdoor Lighting Bylaw, Section 2. Applicability, for discussion
- Outdoor Lighting Bylaw dated 9/6/17
- Email from Richard Moss dated 9/7/17
- Email to E. Gibson re Policies dated 9/18/17
- Email to E. Gibson re Dog Control Bylaw rev 6/21/17 dated 9/19/17
- 10/4/17 letter from AG re Vacant Properties Bylaw approval

Respectfully submitted by Jeanne Pryor

Approved by Jeanne Pryor, Chair

