

Planning Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 9, 2016 7:00 pm
Becket Town Hall- 557 Main Street

Planning Board Members present: Robert Ronzio; Chairman, Gale LaBelle, Martin Schlanger, Ann Krawet, Howard Lerner.

Planning Board members absent: Beth VanNess.

Public present: Michael Pease, Steve Salvini.

Meeting Opens at: 7:05 pm

Chairperson, Mr. Robert Ronzio, opens the meeting and announces that meeting agendas are on the table for anyone who would like one. He advises that the meeting is being held in accordance with Massachusetts General Law 40A and the By-laws of the Town of Becket. A decision to issue a special permit requires a minimum of four positive votes from a five member board. The Board has 90 days after the close of the public hearing to make a decision and 14 days to file the paperwork with the Town Clerk, once the decision has been made. Any Appeals of decisions can be made only to the court and must be pursuant to Section 17, MGL 40A as amended, and must be filed within 20 days after the date of filing of the decision with the Town Clerk. Mr. Ronzio asks if anyone will be making a recording of the meeting, the secretary confirms that she will be recording for the Planning Board. Ms. LaBelle makes a motion to dispense with the rest of the procedural reading, Ms. Krawet seconds the motion, Unanimous Approval. Chairperson, Mr. Ronzio moves the meeting forward.

Approval of February 10, Meeting Minutes- Ms. LaBelle makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented, Ms. Krawet seconds the motion; Unanimous Approval.

Public Input- Mr. Michael Pease introduces himself to the Planning Board members present. Mr. Pease explains that he will be applying to the Planning Board for a Special Permit. He briefly explains that he has brought his surveyor with him this evening to speak with the Planning Board members. He introduces Mr. Steven Salvini. Mr. Salvini presents the Board members with a draft plan of

his rear lot proposal. The proposed common driveway as well as the existing home are discussed. Mr. Ronzio asks questions regarding the road frontage shown and questions why their combined road frontage from both streets could not be used. Mr. Salvini explains that only the frontage from one street can be taken into consideration. Planning Board members take turns asking their questions and having their concerns answered by Mr. Salvini. Mr. Salvini and Mr. Pease thank the Board for their time and advise that they will be submitting an application to the Board in the near future.

New Business- Mr. Ronzio reads aloud a letter of resignation submitted by Mr. Schlanger. Mr. Schlanger advises that he will be resigning as of April 13th. Mr. Ronzio thanks Mr. Schlanger for all of his hard work and dedication as he served on the Planning Board for many years.

Mr. Ronzio advises the Planning Board members that Ms. VanNess has moved out of Town and is now a registered voter in the City of Pittsfield. Mr. Ronzio further explains that this means that her Planning Board position is automatically vacated.

Old Business- Continued discussion: Medical Marijuana. Mr. Ronzio briefs the Planning Board members about an article that recently appeared in the newspaper regarding Medical Marijuana. Board members discuss and agree that it is only a matter of time that there will be laws legalizing recreational marijuana and for this reason discuss putting the writing of a bylaw on hold until they have more updated information on the new law.

Mr. Lerner makes a motion to table any further recreational marijuana bylaw writing until such time when the Planning Board members have more guidance as to what the laws will be. Ms. LaBelle seconds the motion. Board members briefly discuss. Mr. Ronzio polls the Board for a vote: In favor of tabling recreational marijuana: Ms. LaBelle, Mr. Lerner, Mr. Ronzio and Mr. Schlanger. Opposed to tabling: Ms. Krawet.

Board members agree to revisit the issue after the November election.

Mr. Lerner makes a motion to continue the medical marijuana bylaw discussion until such a time that there is a compelling reason to act on it, Ms. LaBelle seconds the motion. Mr. Ronzio polls the Board for a vote.

All in favor: Mr. Ronzio, Mr. Lerner, Mr. Schlanger, Ms. LaBelle.

All opposed: Ms. Krawet

Ms. Krawet brings up a subject that the Board has only briefly discussed before. Ms. Krawet advises that she would like to make an addition to the bylaws, stating that there will be “no driveway located in any side setback”. Ms. Krawet further advises that it would be only under very special circumstances that a variance would be granted. Mr. Lerner suggests that Ms. Krawet should write a rough draft and email it out to the Board members to read and review.

Any other business to come before the Board-None

Correspondence- Read and Reviewed.

Budget-Read and Reviewed

Adjournment- Mr. Schlanger makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ms. LaBelle seconds the motion, Meeting is adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Schedule next meeting for April 13, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Hunt, Planning Board Administrative Assistant

Robert Ronzio	Date
Howard Lerner	Date
Gale LaBelle	Date
Ann Krawet	Date
Marty Schlanger	Date