



**Town of Becket  
Planning Board  
557 Main Street  
Becket, Massachusetts 01223  
(413) 623-8934 ext. 120 fax (413) 623-6036  
[planning@townofbecket.org](mailto:planning@townofbecket.org)**

## **Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2022**

**Board Members Present:** Robert Ronzio, Alvin Blake, Ann Krawet, and James Levy. Howard Lerner and Gale LaBelle on Zoom

**Administrative Assistant:** Jessica Perotti

**Zoom Participants:** See Attachment A

**Zoom participants requesting to speak:** Barbara Liftman, Barry Dichter, Amy Perlmutter, Pasquale “Pat” Crispo, Daniel Osman, Kenneth Cheeseman, Dennis Thomas, Bob Hirsch, Rosemarie Bongiovanni, Stella Ting, Michael Zweig, Paula Langton, Brian Horan for E. Goodman on behalf of Concerned Residents of Becket Inc., Lydia Rosner, Josh Rosner, Martin Robertson, Samuel Rabkin, Mark Hoffman MD, Julie Shanahan, Lewis Popkin, David Davison, Anne Kong, David Kong, Marianne Adams and William Rodgers.

- 1. Call to order:** Mr. Ronzio calls the meeting to order at 6:14pm and reads the rules.  
Mr. Ronzio asks if anyone is recording the meeting. Shawn Isaaksen for the Country Journal, Larry Parnass for the Berkshire Eagle, David Kong and Nathan Hanford all state they are recording the meeting. Mr. Ronzio informs the participants requesting to speak that each person will be allowed two to three minutes to speak and anyone who spoke at the last meeting would not be allowed to speak at this meeting.
- 2. Review of minutes:** Mr. Blake makes the motion to move the review of the minutes until the end of the meeting. Ms. Krawet seconds and Mr. Ronzio calls for a roll call vote.  
Ann Krawet – aye  
Alvin Blake – aye  
James Levy – aye  
Howard Lerner – aye  
Gale LaBelle – abstains  
Robert Ronzio – aye  
Motion to move the discussion is granted.
- 3. New Business:** Informal discussion with Timothy and Melissa Garthwaite regarding their request for relief from Section 3.4.4 (a) of the Becket Zoning Bylaws, *public hearing tentatively scheduled for June 8, 2022* Mr. Ronzio explains the procedure to the applicants and asks them to update the Book/Page number for the permit. Mr. Garthwaite said he would.
- 4. Old Business:** Mr. Blake makes the motion to move the discussion of meeting attendance requirements to the end of the meeting. Ms. Krawet seconds the motion. Mr. Ronzio calls for a roll call vote.



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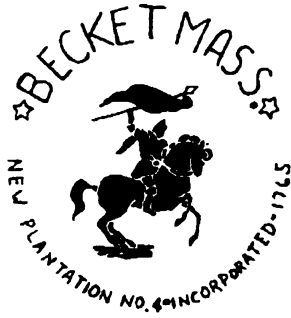
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Alvin Blake – aye  
Ann Krawet – aye  
James Levy – aye  
Howard Lerner – aye  
Gale LaBelle – aye  
Robert Ronzio – aye  
Motion passes unanimously

**Public Hearing Cont'd --:** Lynch Scrimo, on behalf of Hit the Road RV, LLC seeks relief from section 3.1.3 of the Becket Zoning Bylaws to re-establish the Dreamaway Restaurant and establish a glamping facility at 1342 County Road, map/lots: 401/3 & 4. Mr. Ronzio states the original name on the application needs to be updated from Lynch Scrimo to the principal Jeffrey Lynch and Daniel Weinstein on behalf of Hit the Road LLC. Mr. Lynch and Mr. Weinstein agreed to the change and will update the Board.

**Public Participation:** Barbara Liftman, Barry Dichter, Amy Perlmutter, Pasquale “Pat” Crispo, Daniel Osman, Kenneth Cheeseman, Dennis Thomas, Bob Hirsch, Rosemarie Bongiovanni, Stella Ting, Michael Zweig, Paula Langton, Brian Horan for E. Goodman on behalf of Concerned Residents of Becket Inc., Lydia Rosner, Josh Rosner, Martin Robertson, Samuel Rabkin, Mark Hoffman MD, Julie Shanahan, Lewis Popkin, David Davison, Anne Kong, David Kong, Marianne Adams and William Rodgers. All speak in opposition to the project, bringing up traffic issues, environmental issues, character of the neighborhood, and the scale of the project. Heather Anello and Christopher Swindlehurst are the only two participants in favor of the project both think it will add to the town. Mr. Ronzio asks the representatives from Hit the Road to prepare a rebuttal to the issues brought up before them by the next meeting. Mr. Lynch wants to know when the board would like the response. Mr. Blake tells him by June first or sooner. Mr. Lerner makes the motion to continue the hearing until the next meeting on June 8, 2022. Mr. Blake seconds the motion. Mr. Ronzio calls for a vote.

Alvin Blake – aye  
Howard Lerner – aye  
Ann Krawet – aye  
James Levy – aye  
Gale LaBelle – aye  
Robert Ronzio – aye



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Motion to continue the hearing passes unanimously.

Mr. Levy leaves the meeting at 8:30 pm

- 5. Minutes reviewed:** Ms. Krawet asks Ms. Perotti to amend the minutes of March 24. Ms. Perotti agrees to amend the minutes. The board accepts and passes the amended minutes of March 24.

Mr. Blake aye

Ms. Krawet aye

Ms. LaBelle abstains

Mr. Ronzio aye

The board accepts and passes the minutes of April 21.

Mr. Blake aye

Ms. Krawet aye

Ms. LaBelle abstains

Mr. Ronzio aye

- 6. Board to discuss future meeting attendance:** The board agrees to not change anything right now as Covid is still high therefore all meetings will stay as Zoom until at least July. Mr. Ronzio takes a roll call vote.

Mr. Blake aye

Ms. Krawet aye

Ms. LaBelle aye

Mr. Ronzio aye

Motion passes unanimously.

- 7. Any other business to come before the board:** Ms. Krawet reads a statement to the board in regards to the last meeting. Ms. Krawet voices her feelings that at the end of the meeting after the decision was reached she felt like she was being criticized for voting against the decision. Ms. Krawet is not happy with the fact that Mr. Ronzio states that it is the only time he could remember the board not being unanimous in their decision and that the Berkshire Eagle reporter Larry



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Parnass quoted Mr. Ronzio in the article. Ms. Krawet states the statement was out of line and should not have been said. Ms. Krawet wants to make sure that it is not a criticism of her because of the vote. Mr. Ronzio assures her that it had nothing to do with the vote that Ms. Krawet has a right to vote the way she feels. Mr. Ronzio apologizes to Ms. Krawet stating it was not directed at her. Mr. Blake makes the point that it is unusual that a board will all agree all the time. Mr. Lerner states that Mr. Ronzio wasn't casting aspersions against Ms. Krawet. Ms. Krawet accepts the explanation.

Ms. Lei Ann Ellis asks the board about the potential transfer of the permit from FFD Enterprises MA Inc. to Himalayan High. Ms. Ellis believes the permit can't be transferred. Mr. Ronzio replies that the Planning Board doesn't issue the license the Select Board does. Mr. Ronzio looks up the Massachusetts General Law that states it can be transferred. Ms. Ellis asks the board to vote on amending the special permit. Mr. Ronzio asks the board if they find it necessary all concur that they do not need to. Ms. Ellis thanks the board for their time. Mr. Ronzio lets the board know that the Select Board has signed the host agreement with Himalayan High and it has been signed by Himalayan High and FFD Enterprises.

Laurie Freedman asks the board about Himalayan High being considered a prioritized applicant due to the fact they are a Veteran owned business. Mr. Ronzio states that one of the principals is a Veteran and when the application reaches the CCC they will verify the status of the applicant being a Veteran owned business. Ms. Freedman thanks the board.

Mr. Lerner makes the motion to adjourn. Mr. Blake seconds the motion. Mr. Ronzio calls for a roll call vote.

Alvin Blake- aye      Howard Lerner- aye

Ann Krawet- aye      Gale LaBelle- aye

Robert Ronzio- aye

Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 9:11 pm



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**Meeting minutes reviewed and approved on March 8, 2023**

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Robert Ronzio, Chair

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James Levy, Vice Chair

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Ann Krawet, Clerk

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Alvin Blake, Clerk Pro Tem

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Howard Lerner