

Planning Commission

Monday, July 1, 2022

Town Meeting Room and by Zoom

**Open regular meeting**

John opened the meeting at 4:06 PM.

In attendance Michele Carlson, Brian Holt (Zoom,) John Lebron, Chair, Meg Staloff (Zoom), Angela Yakovleff (at 4:15)

Scott Tucker, Town Manager

Visitors: Jessica Lee Smith (Zoom)

**Possible Additions to the Agenda**

Meg will be resigning from the board in the near future. John asked any of the board members who know community members who may be interested in joining the Board to fulfill Meg's term to forward those names to John.

**Public Comment**

none

**Approve Minutes from 6/27/2022**

Meg made a motion to accept the minutes from 6/27/2022 Michele seconded.

In favor: Michele, Brian, John, Meg Opposed: none Abstain: none

**Discussion of New Zoning Administrator Interview process**

There was discussion on the dates for interviews of applicants. John and Cheryl LaFlamme (DRB) will select dates and set up interview times with the applicants. John will notify Planning Commission members of the dates and times, and any members who are able to attend may do so.

**Discussion on track changes to zoning document to be presented at the Public Hearing**

John reviewed the changes to the Zoning Document the Planning Commission is proposing at the Public Hearing. These changes are noted in the Document as track changes.

**Discussion on Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**

Scott was asked when the EVCS will be installed. He said the Town has the permit. They are waiting for the appeal process to expire and will then move forward.

**Meeting suspension**

Meg made a motion to suspend the meeting at 4:36 PM. Angela seconded.

In favor: Michele, Brian, John, Meg, Angela Opposed: none

John suspended the meeting until after the Public Hearing.

### **Public Hearing**

John opened the Hearing at 5:02 PM

Visitors: Chris Mays, Brattleboro Reformer

Mike Eldred

Gretchen Havreluk, Economic Specialist

Articles 5,7, 8, 10 were discussed. These address outdoor dining, solar arrays, public art, electric vehicle charging stations, signage, and definitions. John went through the Zoning Document and noted the proposed changes.

Meg asked about the footnote in the document and wondered if it should be removed if changes are approved because it will no longer be necessary. [It will not be necessary.]

This is a formatting change, no longer a By-law change.

There was further discussion on specific reasoning for the proposed changes.

Meg thinks we had agreed to strike the last sentence in 732 I. This change had been approved at a prior meeting. It was agreed this was an error when adding track changes and should be stricken.

Mike Eldred asked why the changes to the sign ordinance were made. [Many signs presently used are in violation of the ordinance as it is presently written. The proposed change is in line with the present signage use.]

He also questioned the reasons for changes to public dining. [These changes were originally made during Covid. It was agreed that continuing these permits is beneficial to the Town and the businesses. Scott noted the state is also pushing increased outdoor dining.]

Chris Mays asked about the reasoning behind Public Art additions. [In the present zoning document there is no definition of Public Art, but there needs to be one. Public Art is encouraged.]

John closed the Hearing at 5:23 PM.

Michele made a motion to reopen the meeting at 5:25 PM. Angela seconded.

In favor: Michele, Brian, John, Meg, Angela Opposed: none Abstain: none

Discussion on deleting the final sentence in section 732 as previously voted on. We referenced the change in the notice that went out.

Meg made a motion to accept the changes as discussed in the hearing and send the document along to the Select Board for review.

In Favor: Michele, Brian, John, Meg, Angela    Opposed: none    Abstain: none

**Adjournment**

Meg made a motion to adjourn at 5:30 PM. Michele seconded.

In favor Michele, Brian, John, Meg, Angela    Opposed none

**Next Meeting Monday July 25, 2022 at 4 pm**

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Yakovleff, scribe