

TOWN OF TAMWORTH
***** **PLANNING BOARD Social Hour Minutes** *****
April 30, 2017

A gathering began at 5 pm at the Preserve at Chocorua.

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm by Sheldon Perry, Chairperson.

Present: Becca Boyden, Andy Fisher, Eric Dube, Pat Farley, Sheldon Perry, David Little, Steve Gray, Alternate Selectmen's Rep.

Absent: Dan Poirier, Selectmen's Rep

Alternates Present: Dom Bergen

Alternates Absent: none

Public Attendance: Ann McGarrity, Ruth Timchak, Kimball and Neesa Packard, Geoff and Annie Burke, Paul King, David Dinwoodie, Mr & Mrs John Whacker, Ashana Michaels, Liz Toppa, Nina Perry, Susan Ticehurst, Ed & Mary Phelps, Jeanne Bergen, Nate Winship and Sharon Nothnagle.

Sheldon began the meeting by introducing Melissa, Recording Secretary. He then thanked Mary and Ed Phelps for the use of their venue for this event. Each member of the Planning Board introduced themselves and spoke briefly about their reasons for their interest in town planning.

Ashana Michaels asked what the Board does, in light of having no zoning. It was explained that we do have some ordinances and regulations, even though we do not have "zoning"

Susan Ticehurst asked what type of training was necessary to be a Planning Board Alternate. Becca spoke about all the resources that are available, and David mentioned that there is a Planning Board Handbook available as well.

Ed Phelps has issues with reclaiming an old pond, and reclaiming pastures. There are no local wetlands ordinances, but the State guidelines will have to be adhered to. John Mersfelder was concerned about the implication that local ordinances would supersede the State rules, which is not the case. Liz Toppa was concerned about Riparian rights, and that folks downstream would be without water. John Mersfelder said that a State Dredge and Fill would be required to reclaim the pond. Discussion ensued about dams in the State of New Hampshire.

Steve Gray mentioned the Capital Improvement Program, and Becca spoke about some of the CIP details.

John M. asked if there would be a review and update of the Master Plan in the future. Sheldon spoke about the current goals the Planning Board has established.

John Whacker spoke of the Master Plan being in its 9th year, and that there has been no annual review and report in the Town Report, as the implementation clause calls for. He challenges the Planning Board

to review the Master Plan every three months. Mr Whacker stated that he would volunteer to join a Master Plan review committee. David Little noted that the CIP does look at the Master Plan annually. He also noted that the Master Plan did not include unforeseen items such as the Fire Station. It did not see into the future.

Nate Winship spoke of having been an alternate on the Sandwich Planning Board. Master Plans are great documents but they depend on the town meeting, and who is elected.

Ashana Michaels is concerned about what Tamworth will do for its aging population. Becca said she would like to have more of these social hours to discuss topics such as senior housing, etc. Ashana indicated that she would be interested in researching this topic.

Eric invited everyone to come to any regularly scheduled Planning Board meeting if they have concerns they would like to discuss.

Paul King feels that Master Plans are ignored, and encourages the Board not to waste manhours on it. John M responded about the purpose of a Master Plan, which is to work toward a zoning ordinance.

Susan Ticehurst mentioned that the Conservation Commission used to have 3-4 items from the Master Plan on every agenda for review.

Pat Farley noted that some items that were in the Master Plan have been implemented, such as the town website, town-wide internet, and the formation of the Economic Development Commission.

Sheldon spoke about the Groundwater Protection, and Zoning initiatives that were voted down by the Town.

Nate Winship stated that half of the town does not use the internet. What is voted on at Town Meeting is what matters.

Ann McGarrity had questions about Conservation restrictions and current use. David Little addressed these questions.

Kimball Packard spoke about the TamworthMade Festival of the Arts, beginning May 5. Visit Tamworthmade.com. Wednesday May 10, the Economic Development Commission will be at the barn at the Preserve from 4-5 pm for a forum on marketing your art.

Pat made a motion to adjourn at 6:58 pm. Becca seconded. APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Donaldson
Planning Board Clerk