



Rockport, Massachusetts Planning Board

Minutes of Meeting & Hearing, Thursday, March 3, 2016 Rockport Town Hall Annex, 7:30 p.m.

Present: General Meeting and Hearing, Town Hall Annex 7:30 p.m. Meeting comes to order with Herman S. Lilja, Chairman; Edward S. Hand, Jr. Vice Chairman; Terence Duffy, Cameron Smith and Henry T. Betts present. Kirk W Baker, Town Planner, present. Minutes are recorded by Mary Bourguignon, Secretary.

1. 7:30 p.m. General Meeting and Discussion

2. 7:35 p.m. Continued Hearing – SPR – 5 Old Garden Rd., Marc Bloostein, Map 22, Lot 152. Mr. Lilja said the Town Planner will go through the separate aspects of the application. After Mr. Baker read through this document Mr. Duffy made a motion to close the hearing on 5 Old Garden Rd. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All in favor. Mr. Smith made a motion to approve this SPR. Mr. Duffy seconded the motion. All in favor. Mr. Baker will draft the final document and then members will come in the office to sign this document for distribution.

3. 8:00 p.m. Public Hearing – Amending the Zoning by-law – add a new section IX. Large- Scale Ground – Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation Overlay District. Mr. Hand opened the hearing and introduced members of the Green Community Committee: Bruce Reed, Chairman; Ed Perry, Tom Mikus and Jim Waddell members. Mr. Reed advised the members and audience that the Committee was formed the end of last summer by the Board of Selectmen as well as the DPW. Roughly 160 communities in Massachusetts are now Green Communities. There are five criteria a town has to pass to become a Green Community. The criteria are: specific zoning for alternative energy, along the way they have to streamline the permitting for alternative energy development, reduce energy consumption in the town by 20%, buy energy efficiently vehicles and lastly, adopt the stretch code rule. Once the Town becomes certified the Town receives a check for about \$140,000.00 for energy conservation measures. If all this works well, this will be happening about next January. A question and answer period followed by members of the Board and Town's people participating. Next, Mr. Hand made a motion to close the public hearing. Mr. Duffy seconded the motion. All in favor. Mr. Lilja stated that the Board needs to come up with a motion that encompasses what was decided on with regard to reducing the size of the proposed the area from forty to fifty acres to something on the order of twenty acres. We are going to decide on a number or vary that in accordance with sort of contours that are yet to be found. The Board has to come up with appropriate words. After a lengthy discussion Mr. Hand made a motion that the LSGMPVI overlay district be redrawn 150 ft. from private property then follow a contour line from the southwest corner of north side of 1937 -1938 following along the contour line all the way around to the northern boundary overlay. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All in favor.

4. Green Communities Update – Ed Hand. Mr. Hand said the hearing is Wednesday night at the Community House.

5. Planner's Update – Informal Discussion. Mr. Baker said no new updates.

6. Update on activities related to town-wide Master Plan – Cameron Smith. Mr. Smith said that he had about nine responses and he looked at how Survey Monkey handled this. It worked just the way you would think it would work and he thinks it is good to go. What he proposes is the next stage issue is how to get 400 people to participate and that means articles in the newspapers and on the website.

7. Report on Harbor Lights Legislative Meeting, 2/24/16 – Ed Hand. Mr. Hand said he attended a Legislative breakfast and they were talking about that Rockport is #3 of 15 communities for CPA money available.

8. Continuing Business, Liaison Reports, and Other Updates

- **Liaison Reports.** No reports given.
- **Updates from Planner or Members.** Barbara Sparks sent a letter pertaining to the Millbrook Meadow and they would like the Planning Board to write a letter of support for the plan they now have in place.

9. Planning Board Administration

- **Approval of Bills.** Invoice for Kirk Baker presented for payment. Mr. Smith made a motion to pay this invoice. Mr. Betts seconded the notion. All in favor.
- **Approval of Minutes.** Minutes for February 4, 2016 presented for approval. Mr. Smith made a motion to approve these minutes. Mr. Betts seconded the motion. All in favor.

10. Adjournment: 10:55 p.m. Mr. Hand made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Duffy seconded the notion. All in favor.

Herman S. Lilja, Chairman

Date