

Minutes for Town of North Smithfield Planning Board

Kendall Dean School, 83 Green Street

Thursday, December 17, 2015

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

1. Roll Call: Present: Lucien Benoit, Dean Naylor, Gary Palardy, Dinna Finnegan, David Punchak and Scott Lentz. Also in attendance were Town Planner Robert Ericson and Assistant Planner Bobbi Moneghan.

2. Voting on officers for Planning Board 2016:

Nominations for Chairman of PB: Dr. Benoit nominated Mr. Naylor, Mr. Lentz seconded. Vote by PB: Mr. Palardy-Yes, Mr. Naylor-Yes, Mr. Lentz-Yes, Ms. Finnegan-Yes, Dr. Benoit-Yes. Mr. Naylor elected PB Chairman.

Nominations for Vice Chairman of PB: Mr. Lentz nominated Ms. Finnegan, Mr. Naylor seconded. Dr. Benoit nominated Mr. Palardy, Mr. Lentz seconded. Vote for Ms. Finnegan as Vice Chairman of PB: Mr. Palardy-Yes, Mr. Naylor-Yes, Mr. Lentz-Yes, Ms. Finnegan-Yes, Dr. Benoit-No. Ms. Finnegan elected Vice Chairperson.

Nominations for Secretary of PB: Dr. Benoit nominated Mr. Lentz, Ms. Finnegan seconded. Chairman Naylor cast one vote for Mr. Lentz. Mr. Lentz elected PB Secretary.

Dr. Benoit asked if lot 3 is buildable per Smithfield, where the frontage is located; Mr. Ericson answered affirmatively. Lot 1 has existing access from Providence Pike. Lot 8 is in Smithfield and is accessible from Mowry Farm Road and is a conservation site. The Smithfield PB approved the creation of lot 8. Summary: all lots have access to public road, meet all criteria for proper subdivision, and require no variances in North Smithfield. Mr. Ericson said he still needs to receive a PDF of the Preliminary/Final subdivision.

Mr. Lentz made a motion to approve the Preliminary Plan for Frank Simonelli, plan dated 12/8/2015, with the condition that the surveyor provide a PDF of the Preliminary/Final Plan. The final plan is approved administratively by Mr. Ericson. Motion seconded by Mr. Palardy. A roll call vote was taken, all in favor of approval (5-0).

7. Planning Board Rules of Procedure: Discussion, vote or other action on revisions.

Mr. Ericson reviewed the addition made concerning meeting cancellations. The Board had no questions. Ms. Finnegan made a motion to continue the approval of the Rules of Procedure to the next PB meeting, January 7, 2016. Mr. Palardy seconded. Motion passed with all in favor (5-0).

8. Capital Budget: Review of timeline. Discussion of funding for selected school health and safety projects.

All Capital Budgets are due to Mr. Ericson by January 11, 2016. They will be discussed at the PB meeting of January 21, 2016. Chairman Naylor stated that every year the Capital Budgets come to the PB but it is never clear if there are any capital moneys to be spent. He would prefer if the Board knew how much money was available to aid the PB in prioritizing the needs defined in the budgets. Chairman Naylor asked if the Budget Board could supply the amount of money available and how much would be earmarked for the schools. Mr. Ericson is going to meet with the Chairperson of the Budget Board.

Mr. Naylor asked if the departments are aware of what the PB wants to see: justifications and more robust arguments for capital funding. Mr. Ericson spoke about the problem in the Highway Department with no trucks to be used for catch basin cleaning. He explained the possibility of an arrangement to be made with the Hino Dealership for a truck to be leased for catch basin cleaning. The trucks the town used from Burrillville did not work well with the old and variably designed catch basins in North Smithfield.

Chairman Naylor mentioned leases are not Capital Budget items and Mr. Ericson ensured that the departments are aware of that. Mr. Palardy asked if anyone has talked about the advantage of leasing in some cases over purchasing, as with computer equipment. Ms. Moneghan asked if it would suffice if the PB needs were communicated to Mr. Parmelee to communicate to the departments.

The PB agreed that would be beneficial.

Ms. Finnegan asked Mr. Ericson when the Capital Budgets are due. She wanted to know the repercussions if the budgets are not submitted on time. She believes this is a waste of time of the PB and asked how this can be changed and how there can be accountability. Chairman Naylor suggested the funds be distributed on a first-come first-serve basis. Chairman Naylor asked that Mr. Ericson relay the PB wishes to the departments in regard to Capital Budgets.

9. Planning Update: Summary of new developments with the Comprehensive Plan, public facilities, new commercial and manufacturing projects, infrastructure projects, applications in the pipeline, BRV Heritage Corridor projects, energy projects, zoning ordinance amendments and meetings schedule.

Ten year Transportation Improvements Plan (TIP): Slatersville Bridge is on the plan for completion in 2016 and it will not be done until 2017. This project cannot be put on the TIP because it was scheduled to be done in 2016. Public hearings will be held on January 4 at the Town Council meeting and January 7 before the Planning Board.

MS4: Per RIDEM, the Town is required to check and clean as necessary all 670 catch basins in town in 2016. Engineer Joe Casali will be giving technical advice for the catch basin cleaning.

Trail grant: Mr. Ericson explained there will be a 0.6 mile walking trail created at Pacheco Park that will not cross the wetlands.

10. Adjournment

Dr. Benoit made a motion to adjourn at 8:55 pm, seconded by Ms. Finnegan, with all in favor.

Submitted by Bobbi Moneghan December 28, 2015

Approved by the Planning Board on January 8, 2016