

TOWN OF STAMFORD
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
April 15, 2019
(UNAPPROVED)

Present: Planning Commission: Kurt Gamari, Steven Denault, Daniel J. Potvin, Helen Fields, Jenifer Hughs, and Sheila Lawrence.

Stephen Bechtel, Aaron Malachuk, and David Saldo were not present.

Visitors: Nancy Bushika and James Stimpson.

Lori Shepard, Secretary.

Dan Potvin, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the pledge of allegiance.

HEARING OF VISITORS

None.

PREPARATION FOR ALL BOARDS MEETING

Helen Fields would like the various boards to divide into smaller groups to come up with a town theme for the year. Each group can huddle and discuss what their board has been working on and their vision for Stamford. The Planning Commission brainstormed topics for discussion such as energy, the savings of efficiency and weatherization, the solar/wind preferable site map, thoughts on expanding business opportunities in town, and their current project of revising and simplifying the By-laws. The Planning Commission was supportive of her brainstorming idea. The solar/wind map will be available for viewing that night.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Kurt Gamari stated that the river has eaten away the bank near the tennis courts. The board discussed repairing the area and will talk to Dave Tatro, Road Commissioner, to see if a state permit is needed.

2. Dan Potvin offered to have the president of his son's college come down to give a talk on Distributism.

MOTION by Jenifer Hughs to host the speaker for a free presentation in town and to authorize Dan Potvin to contact him for some available dates. SECONDED by Helen Fields. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

MINUTES

MOTION by Jenifer Hughs to accept the regular meeting minutes of March 25, 2019 and the public hearing minutes of March 25, 2019 as written. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

MOTION by Helen Fields to accept the regular meeting minutes of March 11, 2019 as written. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

ZONING BY-LAWS

The Commission began to review the Zoning By-laws.

Helen Fields felt that noise and light pollution should be added to the definition of pollution in section 1.16.1. Dan Potvin was uneasy about the addition, thinking that he might not like what his neighbor is doing, but if you try to shut your neighbor down, you will end up losing your rights too. Helen Fields felt

that light pollution can infringe on your neighbors' enjoyment of their property and can be a safety hazard along the roadway. Jim Stimpson stated she should call the police if a light is causing a safety issue. After further discussion, board members felt the definition was ok as is. It was suggested that Helen Fields come up with some guidelines for proper etiquette, good living and how to be respectful of others.

Jim Stimpson asked why there are Class 4 roads in residential or rural zones. He feels all roads in residential or rural areas should be Class 3 roads with year round living. He felt camp owners should be able to plow Class 4 roads and stay there year round if they choose. Dan Potvin has plowed Class 4 roads in the winter when logging. Sheila Lawrence recalled when she was on the Selectboard they did not want camp owners plowing the Class 4 roads and wanted people to post a \$1 million bond and carry liability insurance. Jim Stimpson felt if our By-laws allow the building of a full-time residence in the forest zone, our road classifications should support that. He also questioned our setback requirements on East Road where the road right-of-way is 60 feet. It was noted that in section 6.2 Conditional Uses Permitted in Forest Districts, the first paragraph states roads "shall be constructed to town standards". Dave Tatro will be invited to the next Planning Commission meeting for his input and to advise what the town road standards are and what wording should be used.

The board discussed adding a business section to our By-Laws but did not feel it was needed at this time. Dan Potvin would like to see an agricultural section.

MOTION by Helen Fields to adjourn. SECONDED by Sheila Lawrence. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

The next meeting was scheduled for May 13, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Helen Fields,
Planning Commission Clerk

HF/las