

TOWN OF STAMFORD
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
February 24, 2020
(UNAPPROVED)

Present: Planning Commission: Aaron Malachuk, Chair, Debra Burchard, Helen Fields, Daniel J. Potvin, Kurt Gamari, John Dupras, Sheila Lawrence and Annemarie Potvin, Alternate. Jenifer Hughs and David Saldo were not present.

Visitors: James Sullivan, Bennington County Regional Commission.
James Stimpson, Administrative Officer.
Lori Shepard, Secretary.

Aaron Malachuk called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. and opened with the pledge of allegiance. He welcomed John Dupras to the board.

MINUTES

Sheila Lawrence was present at the last meeting but was erroneously reported as absent.

MOTION by Dan Potvin to accept the regular meeting minutes of February 10, 2020 as revised.

SECONDED by Helen Fields. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

DISCUSSION OF ZONING BY-LAWS

Jim Sullivan reviewed the zoning by-laws with the board. The board discussed at great length the Table of Dimensional Standards for the residential, rural and forest districts weighing their vision for the future of Stamford and the importance of not impeding residents' full use of their property.

MOTION by Helen Fields to continue the five acre minimum lot requirement in the forest zone and establish a maximum building (square footage of all buildings combined, not just the primary building) coverage of 5% of the size of the lot. SECONDED by Aaron Malachuk. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

Jim Stimpson asked the board to consider a way to make the town aware of agricultural buildings for assessment and taxation purposes since they are not required to obtain a building permit. Dan Potvin suggested a registration process so the listers will be aware when an agricultural building is constructed.

MEMBERSHIP

1. The Planning Commission received a written request from Zacharias Clay requesting to serve on the board. Aaron Malachuk said he would give the letter of interest to the Selectboard who is in charge of making appointments.

2. Aaron Malachuk attended the last Selectboard meeting concerning Dave Saldo's lack of attendance and the board's request that his appointment be revoked. The board members felt they have followed the rules which were established at last year's reorganizational meeting concerning members who do not attend. They have also sent letters and have tried to contact him when a quorum was needed. Sheila Lawrence stated there continues to be extenuating circumstances and said she would visit with him. Aaron Malachuk confirmed that if he doesn't

respond to the Selectboard, they will consider his lack of response as his resignation. He said they value his years of experience and would like him to come to meetings.

MOTION by Helen Fields to adjourn. SECONDED by Deb Burchard. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Aaron Malachuk
Planning Commission Chair

AM/las

Reminder: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 16, 2020 at 7 p.m.