

TOWN OF STAMFORD
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
March 16, 2020
(UNAPPROVED)

Planning Commission present: Aaron Malachuk, Chair, Daniel J. Potvin and Annemarie Potvin, Alternate.
Present by conference call: John Dupras, Jenifer Hughs and David Saldo.

Debra Burchard, Helen Fields, Kurt Gamari, and Sheila Lawrence were not present.

Visitors Present: James Sullivan, Bennington County Regional Commission.
Lori Shepard, Secretary, by conference call.

Aaron Malachuk called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and opened with the pledge of allegiance. He read guidelines for holding a meeting with participation using conference calls. He said he felt it was important that they meet since we have no protocol in place for this type of thing. Dan Potvin stated that he expects the Selectboard will be talking about protocols this Thursday at their meeting.

Jennifer Hughs stated it was extremely difficult to hear the conversation.

REORGANIZATION OF PLANNING BOARD

MOTION by Dan Potvin to nominate Aaron Malachuk as Chair. Without a second, the motion failed.

MOTION by Jenifer Hughs to postpone the nominations until we can hear it each other. Without a second, the motion failed.

Jim Sullivan recommended that under the circumstances the board should renominate the current people in their same positions for now.

MOTION by Jenifer Hughs to appoint the same people to hold the same positions for two months and then reorganize at a future meeting; appointments are: Aaron Malachuk as Chair, Dan Potvin as Vice Chair and Helen Fields as Clerk. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

MINUTES

MOTION by Aaron Malachuk to accept the regular meeting minutes of February 24, 2020 as written. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

DISCUSSION OF ZONING BY-LAWS

Aaron Malachuk stated that the board has reviewed the draft to the last section of Planned Unit Development. There were no questions about PUD. Dave Saldo asked about the reallocation of lot sizes in each district and the various tables were reviewed. Jen Hughs noted a correction concerning the sign language on page 8.

Jim Sullivan reviewed the law concerning the approval of rights-of-way in section 7.2. The law requires the approval by a town official but the Planning Commission can chose who approves it - the Administrative Officer or Planning Commission. Some board members felt the decision should not be left to one person, others felt needing board approval would complicate the matter. John Dupras suggested a right-of-way serving one or two lots could be approved by the Administrative Officer, but rights-of-way serving more than two lots should be approved by the Planning Commission. Discussion ensued concerning rights-of-way, driveways and the town's specifications.

Dave Saldo felt the board was ready to finalize the draft and wished he had more time to review it. He expressed his frustration of feeling kicked off the Planning Commission after his many years of service. Jenifer Hughs welcomed him back.

Jim Sullivan stated that the flood hazard regulations were just added about five years ago and should be fine as they are. Dave Saldo agreed that the inclusion of flood regulations were mandated by the state and the Planning Commission spent a considerable amount of time putting it together.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be Monday, April 13, 2020. Aaron Malachuk intends to have the logistics ready so that people can call in easily and even have the option to video chat.

MOTION by Aaron Malachuk to conclude the meeting. SECONDED by Dave Saldo. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Aaron Malachuk
Planning Commission Chair

AM/las