

Westmoreland Planning Board

August 14 2012

Approved minutes

Present: Lauren Bressett, Jim Starkey, Jack Zeller, Dawn Lincoln, Jim Ranson

Excused: Bruce Smith, Laurie Burt, Richard Paul

Jim Ranson seated for missing member

Lauren Bressett opened the meeting at 7:10 with delay for making copies of newest version of the Conservation Committees proposed plan.

Review of July 10th minutes

1. Bruce Smith requested to change the word, dissatisfaction to frustration. "Bruce Smith stated he is expressing his frustration of the process and let the chair of both boards and selectman look through the process to see how it can be improved."

2. Jim Starkey requested to have the word he, changed to Mr Larkin
"Jim Starkey clarified that after the site visit his concerns with an oil tank leak with the sump pumps in the basement were lessened when he saw the elevation of the sump pumps; Mr. Larkin may still want take precautions and try to contain any oil leak to the smaller oil tank room area. "

Jim Ranson made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Jack Zeller second, all voted to approve.

Old Business

Sign Ordinance

Lauren Bressett stated that Patrick Baker could not attend tonight's sign ordinance discussion. Board members discussed what the ordinances are now and how they might change the ordinance, by adding banner signs, accessory signs, temporary signs, etc. Some suggested changes:

433 F Signs shall not exceed 15 feet from ground level.

434 A Define directory sign, change max size, add banner sign not larger than 32 square feet.

B define directory sign, change max size, add one banner sign per business not larger than 32 square feet, one sign listing all businesses on property not to exceed X feet.

435 D delete double faced, E change may to shall.

436 B add 'or driveway' after sidewalk.

Possibly add accessory sign category and limit by total square footage.

Consider that some of businesses in town are in rural residential and medium density residential. Do we want to merge all districts or add category for medium density?

All members are asked to pay particular attention to signage in town, what is considered appropriate, what might be excessive or inappropriate and be prepared to share observations at next meeting.

Master Plan

Lauren Bressett reminded board members that they need recommendations for possible people for the master plan committee. She also suggested Alison Fissette check with Joann Labarre to see if she knows where all the information from the previous Master Plan committee is, that Jim Blake chaired.

New Business

Graves - AOT

Lauren Bressett stated that the State of NH has approved the Graves alteration of terrain permit. She suggested that when they do come to the board we may want to do a site visit prior to the hearing.

Voluntary Merger

Alison Fissette informed the board members that she had received a voluntary merger application from Joann Labarre for Henry Zurmolen and Joann felt that the fee should be waived. Board members discussed the fee schedule and felt that there will be a charge for the merger and instructed Alison Fissette to send a letter to the applicant with copy of fee schedule.

Parking spaces

Dawn Lincoln mentioned that maybe the board could also look at the parking space ordinance; she feels it could be updated.

Selectboard update

Jack Zeller stated that all town departments have been informed that all original documents are to be in the master file in the office. He feels it is coming together.

Dawn Lincoln made a motion to adjourn, Jim Ranson second, motion passed, Jim Starkey opposed.

Respectfully submitted
Alison Fissette
Planning Board Secretary