

PLANNING BOARD



19 WASHINGTON STREET
SHERBORN, MASSACHUSETTS 01770

MINUTES

July 25, 2012

Members present: Chairman John Higley, John Stevens, Eric Johnson, Robin Perera, Charles Yon, Associate Grace Shepard and Town Planner Gino Carlucci

Guests: Peter Liffiton on behalf of the Board of Health from 7:06 – 8:40

The meeting began at 7:06 p.m. in Sherborn Town Hall, Room 204A.

TOWN CENTER REPORT (*Reference Documents #1 and #2*)

John Higley announced that the agenda item concerning discussion of a possible limited sewer system for the Town Center is confirmed for the August 2nd Selectmen's meeting. The Planning Board will be attending and a Charles River Watershed Association representative will be there. The sewer could have an aspect that could generate electricity. Commercial space, residential units, and the Pine Hill School could all use the town sewer. A citizen comment suggested that the athletic field would be a good leaching area, but may require a change to Board of Health regulations.

Grace Shepard suggested the Planning Board work on goals to accomplish by the spring 2013 town meeting. John Higley stated that working on streamlining the permitting process, per the Selectmen's meeting, and completing the draft of the Town Center Report should all be included. The Planning Board also included the sewer and water system options, making the town more walkable (with added pathways and sidewalk repair and installation), and specifying a 30-year vision for what the town should look like (aesthetics, traffic flow, and development).

The Planning Board referred to a map of the town center to draw out two potential paths for development. The "East Trail" would go from the sandwich shop to the tennis courts and the "West Trail" would run along the railroad tracks behind the post office and Walgreens. John Stevens noted that minimizing the cost would be key to getting support to move forward with one or both paths. Speaking with a MAPC rep and Broadmoor would also be helpful, especially with regard to cost estimates for boardwalks that may be needed for part of the route.

Grace Shepard stated that a safe crossing is needed in front of C&L Frosty. Installing a pedestrian controlled crosswalk would be very helpful. The sidewalks should be considered

from the Farm Road/Route 27 intersection to the Pine Hill School. On the other side of the road, sidewalks from Maple Street to Laurel Farm need to be redone. There are additional improvements that could be made to improve traffic safety in town, including narrowing the roadway and visual traffic calming from Cemetery Road to Eliot Street.

John Higley stated that, in the Fall, the town boards can announce a new program for informal discussion of permitting on Mondays. People are concerned with improving the processes for time, decision, and cost of obtaining permits. An obstacle may be an image of being strict, so availability to the public should make a difference. A citizen comment suggested that the difficulty may be that the permitting process is more sequential than simultaneous right now.

John Higley would like the Planning Board to work on getting draft recommendations for the sewer opportunity. There will need to be a committee made up from different boards for the sewer project and the pathways project. The next steps will be to reach out to key boards and people.

OTHER BUSINESS

Gino Carlucci and John Higley will be attending the DOER conference on alternative energy opportunities in landfills.

Gino Carlucci attended a meeting with members of other boards and a real estate company regarding a potential solar facility to serve ADESA. There is an issue as to location because the project would require approximately 15 acres of land. The company also offered to be the town's consultant for a solar facility anywhere in town at no cost with their fee being paid by the eventual solar developer.

The Governor announced the new Green Communities yesterday at the State House. There are now 103. The grant program is going ahead.

MINUTES

The July 11th minutes will be voted on during the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Planning Board will be August 8, 2012.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Pettit
Clerk

DOCUMENTS REFERENCED DURING THE MEETING

1. Aerial photo map of Sherborn Town Center
2. Existing Conditions plan of Town Center roadways by VHB