

PLANNING BOARD



19 WASHINGTON STREET
SHERBORN, MASSACHUSETTS 01770

MINUTES October 1, 2014

Members Present: John Higley (Chairman), John Stevens, Eric Johnson, Chris Tullmann, Marian Neutra, Associate Grace Shepard, and Town Planner Gino Carlucci

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Charles Gozlin, Nicholas Terri, Edwin Rosen, Janet Fitzpatrick, Pam Hastings, Dave Walkenstein, Tom Feinstein

John Higley called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Sherborn Community Center.

ABBEY ROAD

John Higley made the motion, which was seconded by John Stevens, to continue the hearing for the special permit for the Abbey Road project to the Planning Board meeting on November 5, 2014 at 7:00 PM as no one from the project's development team was present at tonight's meeting.

SHERBORN MEADOWS (*Reference Documents #1, 2*)

Several residents of Sherborn Meadows presented arguments for and against certain lighting solutions to be installed on a pathway that some residents feel is insufficiently lit. At a previous meeting, the Planning Board unanimously agreed that additional lighting should be installed for the purpose of safety, but that the lighting that is chosen to be installed is to be consistent with the already-present and Planning Board-approved lighting in other like areas of Sherborn Meadows and must be adequately shielded so as not to disturb residents, neighbors, or wildlife. Concerns about the cost, the location, and the type of lighting, as well as the potential for light pollution, were discussed.

Residents of Sherborn Meadows will return to the November 5, 2014 meeting of the Planning Board to present alternative lighting solutions, including cost estimates. This is to be done before any further permits are obtained to install lighting and before any installation occurs.

UPDATE ON GENERAL PLAN WORK GROUPS

Built Environment

John Higley reported that, at the initial kickoff meeting of the General Plan Work Groups, the Built Environment work group selected a Chair and someone to record and submit minutes. Their first meeting will take place on October 16, 2014.

Land Use

Marian Neutra, representing the Open Space work group, reported that her group had selected a Chair and a minute-taker. The first meeting of the Land Use group will take place on October 2, 2014. The first assignment to the group's members is to each make a two-minute presentation about what they want Sherborn to look like in 30 years. Each member is also to read the 2001 General Plan in its entirety and to read the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Fiscal and Economic

Eric Johnson reported that the Fiscal and Economic work group met on September 24, 2014. The Chair and minute-taker positions are currently undecided. The work group members are charged with reviewing the Town Budget, the Town Center Report, and the Water and Sewer Summaries. At their next meeting on October 6, 2014, the members of the group are to establish an outline of goals, which will allow them to better focus the tasks ahead.

WARRANT ARTICLES (*Reference Document #3*)

John Higley reported that the Advisory Committee had two main concerns about presenting a revised warrant article regarding special permitting for outdoor entertainment at restaurants at the Fall Special Town Meeting. The first concern is the Committee questions the need for such an amendment, as the special permitting process is already in place. The second concern was wanting to fully discuss and understand the reason for the amendment to the restaurant bylaw when the rushed schedule would not allow enough time for that discussion. It is Mr. Higley's opinion that the Advisory Committee will want to wait to have this issue fully vetted and presented at Town Meeting in 2015, rather than have it rushed, with the possibility of being voted down for lack of enough discussion, at the Fall Special Town Meeting.

More discussion among the members of the Planning Board is necessary to determine the kinds of regulations they wish to support in the amendment before the issue can be confidently and completely presented to other boards and at a public Town vote. The consensus of the Planning Board was to pull the issue from the Fall Special Town Meeting on October 15, 2014, but to still hold a hearing on the issue on October 14, 2014, as it was publically advertised.

OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Tree Removal – The Tree Warden has completed a list of dead and dying trees to be removed in Town. This list will be provided to the members of the Planning Board for their review. The Planning Board is responsible for assessing the listed trees that are located on scenic roads. A hearing has not yet been set for the determination of the removal of specific trees, but will likely occur in late November, 2014.

MINUTES

The minutes for September 10, 2014 and September 17, 2014 were approved as amended.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Shepherd
Planning Board Clerk

DOCUMENTS REFERENCED DURING THE MEETING

1. A September 23, 2014 memo to Gino Carlucci from Steven P. Keiran regarding exterior lighting at Sherborn Meadows
2. A set of four photographs depicting the proposed location and type of lighting for the Sherborn Meadows rear pathway
3. A September 26, 2014 memo to Gino Carlucci from Alan B. Rubenstein regarding the warrant article amendment