

PLANNING BOARD



19 WASHINGTON STREET
SHERBORN, MASSACHUSETTS 01770

MINUTES September 9, 2015

Members Present: John Higley, Chris Tullmann, Marian Neutra, Associate Grace Shepard, and Town Planner Gino Carlucci

Members Absent: Eric Johnson, Joseph Putnam

John Higley called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. in the Sherborn Town Hall, room 204A.

GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

Marian Neutra informed the Board that the Land Use work group met on September 8, 2015 and has completed their General Plan outline, and she considers this a large milestone for the group. The next meeting for the Land Use group will be held on October 5, 2015. In the meantime, Marian and other members of the group will continue to work on the outline, consolidating and fleshing it out as needed. Mrs. Neutra suggests that the Land Use group meet with each of the other two work groups individually so as to address any overlaps in goals and to ensure that work groups are moving in the same overall direction toward goals.

The Built Environment work group reports low attendance and has thus not set a meeting schedule.

The Fiscal and Economic work group last met on August 10, 2015 and were provided with statistical data. Additionally, Gino Carlucci reported that Town Finance Director Irene Larivee provided the group with Other Post-Employee Benefits information for consideration.

There was extensive discussion during tonight's meeting about establishing recommendations within the General Plan which reflect the various goals, such as Sherborn's designation as a Green Community. Marian Neutra said that it is the job of the Planning Board to define these goals and recommendations in terms of time and level of compliance as well as to inform the public and to promote the standards.

2016 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING (*Reference Document #1, 2*)

Gino Carlucci sent members of the Planning Board, via email, the International Dark-Sky Association guidelines as well as the Town of Medway lighting bylaw as part of preparations to pursue a lighting bylaw as a warrant article for the 2016 Annual Town Meeting. The Board reviewed these plans and discussed the possibilities for implementation in Sherborn. Various options were considered, such as the wholesale adoption of the Dark-Sky ordinance or creating a plan specific to the Town. Additionally, features of a lighting bylaw, including timeframes for compliance, were discussed. The next steps for getting this issue on the warrant for the 2016 Annual Town Meeting will be to draft a lighting bylaw that the Board feels is appropriate for Sherborn and one which they feel the residents of Town will support, and then to educate and inform the public about the plan and its features. Mr. Carlucci will begin drafting such a bylaw with input from the Board as discussions on the matter continue.

The Board plans to discuss standards for sound and noise pollution as a possible future warrant article, but it will not be on the warrant for 2016. The issue of elderly and affordable housing and the issue of lot width regulations, both discussed at length in previous Planning Board meetings, will also not be warrant articles for 2016 but will be incorporated into the General Plan after careful consideration and a thorough reworking of both occurs.

OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Scenic Road Hearings – Two hearings for the removal of trees on scenic roads – one by the resident at 117 Mill Street and one by the resident at 52 Greenwood Street – will be held at the next meeting of the Planning Board on September 30, 2015. Members of the Board will informally visit each site before the hearings. Additionally, the resident of 117 Mill Street will have an application considered at a public hearing for the partial removal of a stone wall on a scenic road.

Woodland-Goulding Street Intersection – A joint public hearing with the Town Tree Warden will be held to consider a proposal by Community Maintenance & Development Director for the removal of five trees at the intersection of Woodland and Goulding Streets.

The Fields at Sherborn – The next Zoning Board of Appeals hearing for the 40B application, known as the Fields at Sherborn, will take place on September 16, 2015 at 8:00 p.m.

ADESA – Gino informed the Board of plans put forth by ADESA for a project that would involve the installation of solar canopies above car lots on the property. He is unsure of the timeline of the project, but it will likely involve amendments to the special permit for the site.

SouthWest Advisory Planning Committee – John Higley informed the Board that the SouthWest Advisory Planning Committee will be hosting a legislative breakfast at the Thayer Homestead in Medway on September 18, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. and encouraged Board members to consider attending.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Carlucci reported that the Conservation Commission has hired a new agent who began work on September 8, 2015.

Sanger Street – Mr. Carlucci shared with the Board a decision made by the Board of Selectmen to close Sanger Street for a trial period of 30 days. He is unsure of when the closure will occur, but stated that the closure will be preceded by a traffic count.

MINUTES

The minutes of July 22, 2015 were unanimously approved as amended.

The next meeting of the Planning Board will be held on September 30, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Shepherd

DOCUMENTS REFERENCED DURING THE MEETING

1. The June 15, 2011 International Dark-Sky Association Model Lighting Ordinance
2. A selected portion of the Town of Medway Lighting Plan Bylaw