

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
CANTERBURY PLANNING BOARD

FEBRUARY 25, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Snyder, (Chairman), Hillary Nelson, Joshua Gordon, Kent Ruesswick, Lucy Nichols (Alternate), Scott Doherty (Alternate) Cheryl Gordon, (BOS Representative)

ABSENT: Art Rose, Tyson Miller, Brendan O'Donnell (Alternate)

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Heath (Energy Commission), Mike Tardiff – CNHRPC, Crystal Eisenhard

Before starting the meeting, Jim Snyder spoke about the confusion at our last meeting about when new members became members, and when leaving members were done.

Since election takes place on Tuesday, March 10th, alternates could be elected that night. They become actual members when Town Meeting adjourns on Friday night, March 13<sup>th</sup>, then they get sworn in. Jim and Art Rose's last meeting will be March 10<sup>th</sup>. Tyson will be acting chair until the April meeting where the Board holds elections for new Chair and Vice Chair.

Both Scott Doherty and Lucy Nichols are running for the two available seats, so we'll be down alternates. We're looking for new recruits. Jim gave thought to remaining as an alternate, but not regularly. He would make himself available if something arose where a large number of members were recused for some reason, or something came up needing historical perspective.

At this point Kent stood up and gave a heartfelt speech discussing Jim's service and leadership to this Planning Board. The Board presented Jim with a plaque recognizing his 25 years of service along with another gift. Jim's presence, knowledge, and leadership will be greatly missed. Although Art Rose was absent, the Board has similar gifts for him and hope to present them at his last meeting.

**Review of 2/11/20 Minutes:** Kent Ruesswick moved the Minutes, second by Cheryl Gordon. Amendments or Discussion: None. Vote to approve Minutes: Unanimous – 2/11/20 Minutes approved.

**Board discussion: Master Plan (Plan for Tomorrow) project:** Hillary Nelson reminded the Board that the goal is to revamp the last survey used for the Master Plan and have it ready to hand out at Town Meeting. She worked with Mike Tardiff to come up with the draft in front of the Board tonight.

47 The Board went through each line item of the survey and discussed legal requirements,  
48 an electronic version of the survey using Metro Quest, and locations to both hand it out  
49 and collect it. The Board also reviewed the Town of Chichester survey and discussed  
50 various issues to include or exclude.

51  
52 At this point Jim wanted to address the resident who was in attendance, Crystal  
53 Eisenhardt, and explained what we were talking about and why we're updating the  
54 Mater Plan. Crystal offered her thoughts on the topic.

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56 Ruth Heath of the Town's Energy Committee also spoke to provide some input as to  
57 what they would like to see included.

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59 After a thorough discussion, the Board authorized the subcommittee to finalize the  
60 survey and prepare it for distribution at both sessions of the Town Meeting.

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62 **Board Discussion: RSA 679:5:** Jim reminded the Board that we need to be very  
63 careful in sending emails to all members of the Board with an opinion about something  
64 that will be on the agenda. The proper procedure would be to send an email to Lori and  
65 ask that it be read or passed out at the meeting.

66  
67 In essence, RSA 679:5 will establish a Housing Appeals Board, hereinafter referred to  
68 as "the Board", which shall be composed of 3 members who shall individually and  
69 collectively be learned and experienced in questions of land use law or housing  
70 development, or both.

71  
72 Joshua Gordon wanted this Board to be aware of the new Board's existence. Mike  
73 Tardiff spoke to say there are 2 senate bills to make modifications to this RSA, one of  
74 which would rescind the whole act. Funds are not in the budget to create this yet and  
75 there's a long way to go for it to come to fruition. The house did not support it, and  
76 there are 2 senate bills relating to this. Mike said there is a lot of support by developers  
77 and housing organizations.

78  
79 Jim said this all relates to land use and it doesn't look a lot different from the process we  
80 have now, except there's a 3-person Board instead of Superior Court.

81  
82 Hillary wondered if we would be able to go to this type of Board for something like the  
83 issues we have with Loudon.

84  
85 Mike said this conversation is a long way from being done. The Municipal Association  
86 didn't have an opinion on this and doesn't support it. The whole thing is not New  
87 Hampshire like. There is a lot of pressure because housing is so expensive. There's no  
88 one answer.

**Other Business:**

- Lucy Nichols discussed the McKerley property on Oxbow Pond with concern about a possible use that's not permitted under their approved Site Plan. Cheryl Gordon will speak to the Selectmen.
- Hillary showed a photo of another person, who appears to be a woman, who walked away from the rehab facility. A gentleman with a white van was trying to talk her back into getting into the van. There was brief discussion about the status of the facility's use and request to appear before the ZBA.

Motion to adjourn by Hillary, second by Kent. Vote: Unanimous.

Submitted by Lori Gabriella, Secretary  
Canterbury Planning Board