Town of SHELBURNE

Planning Board

MINUTES

Regular Meeting via Zoom ~ March 15, 2022

A duly posted meeting of the Shelburne Planning Board was held remotely via Zoom, on Tuesday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m.

Present: John Wheeler

Will Flanders

Cam Stevenson

Seth Wilschutz

Tricia Yacovone-Biagi (Also took notes)

Administrative Assistant: Unable to attend due to previous commitment

Guests: None

Absent: Administrative Assistant Faye Whitney

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chair John Wheeler, who noted the meeting was being recorded.

**Minutes**

There were no minutes from the previous meeting due to Faye’s absence. She will bring them to the next scheduled meeting on April 5, 2022.

**Mail**

Faye had noted in her 6:02 PM email of Monday March 14, 2022 that the only mail was regarding two public hearing notices from Greenfield.

**ANR Plans/Subdivision**

The Board has received no updates on the Mike Skalski, dba 4 Pleasant Street LLC plan since the last meeting. There were no other requests.

**Zoning Relief/Special Permit Applications**

Will reminded the Board that Faye would take care of the minor edits to the Zoning Board’s special permit application to make it work for the Planning Board’s purposes.

John said someone approached him about requirements for a ground-mounted solar array, and he directed them to the ZBA for a special permit.

**Appointments**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

**CPA** – The CPA group has no new information until the public hearing.

**Planning Response to Attorney General’s Comments** – N/A

**Section 10, Findings/Variances** – none

**Master Plan/Economic Development update** – none

**Resilience Plan** – Tricia attended the March 3, 2022 Climate Assessment meeting hosted by The Mass. Office of Environmental Affairs. She explained that the meeting was set up for people from around the Commonwealth to share their concerns about the five climate hazards in MA: heat, flooding, drought, storms & extreme weather, and sea-level rise. The agencies had already identified some known hazards and asked for participants to identify areas missing in their assessment. This was a beneficial experience as it allowed those from rural areas to provide insight into the issues that pertain to us, such as losing access to well water, agricultural disruption, and effect on farm animals. The meeting was the first part of a four-part assessment process. The findings from the meeting will be published in the summer, with a public comment period to follow at the end of summer.

**Mohawk Trail Commercial Zone and Scenic Byway/Sign Bylaws** – See review of Warrant articles in “New Business” below.

**MVP Update** – Will talked to Andrew Smith from MVP program to see how our Hazard Mitigation Plan can work with his program. There are two steps: (1) The Board applies for a planning grant; and (2) the board applies for an action grant to undertake a mitigation project that is decided upon during the planning process.

The planning grant would be for a 2-4 hour workshop run by FRCOG (one of the program’s approved consultants) which will allow for a community gathering to determine which mitigation effort(s) to undertake. The grant can include expenses for childcare for participants, stipends if people will be missing work to attend, and refreshments, if necessary. The application for the planning grant is simple, will be available soon, and is due in early June.

Will proposed that he and Tricia take the lead on doing the MVP application once the Board is done with the Town Meeting. John reminded the Board that the Town Administrator told him that if anyone on the planning board wanted to make an application to the MVP, that would be fine. Will added that he thinks the SelectBoard will probably have to sign it.

The Board agreed by consensus to take the described approach.

**New Business**

**Warrant Article Marijuana in Use Table:** Will prepared a draft of the warrant articles for review in a Word doc named “Proposed warrant articles for June 2022 ATM 030322\_draft2**.”** He found “Marijuana Transporter” was another type of marijuana establishment not included in the discussion at a prior board meeting so that was addressed. The board agreed to update the table with a line for Marijuana Transporter as follows: Zone RA: SP; Zone VR: N; Zone VC: N; Zone C: SP; Zone I: SP.

**Warrant Article re Sign bylaws (Section 9):** The board accepted changes Seth emailed as Word doc “Bylaw-Proposed Revisions to Section 9 Sign Regulations.” John agreed to incorporate those changes and send them to Faye.

A motion was made by Will, seconded by Cam, to approve the proposed warrant articles for public hearing on April 5. Roll call vote: Will – aye; Seth – aye; Cam – aye; Tricia – aye; John – abstain. Motion passed 4-0-1.

Will later suggested having Town Counsel Donna MacNicol review the changes to section 6 since she is knowledgeable about these laws.

A motion was made by Will, seconded by Seth, to send the Section 6 changes to Donna. Roll call vote: Will – aye; Seth – aye; Cam – aye; Tricia – aye; John – abstain. Motion passed 4-0-1.

**Legal Ad:** Seth provided revised language for the part of the ad that addressed Section 9 Sign Regulations. Board came to consensus agreement on that language.

The board also decided to change the start time for the public hearing to 7:00, instead of 7:30 as stated on the draft.

John agreed to send the revised document with both changes to Faye right away to meet the Recorder’s deadline on Friday.

**Committee and Regional Project Updates**

John said there was nothing new from FRCOG. John added he attended the last Open Space committee meeting and reported that they are working on the new brochures for the wooded trail and the one to the firetower. He said they had positive feedback about what we will be proposing at the Town Meeting.

**Other business not reasonably foreseen 48 hours prior to the meeting**

John mentioned the need for Tricia to submit nomination papers to the Town Clerk and that the date for submission is now April 14. Tricia said she will get the papers Thursday.

Will mentioned the desirability of finding for John’s replacement someone who has the same degree of involvement and longevity in the town as John in order to maintain the well-rounded nature of the Board. John said he would think about who a good candidate might be.

**Public Comments**

None

**Schedule Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on April 5, at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Public Hearing at 7:00.

At 7:26 p.m. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Cam and seconded by Will. Roll call vote: Will – aye; Seth – aye; Cam – aye; Tricia – aye; John – abstain. Motion passed 4-0-1.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Yacovone-Biagi

Member, Planning Board