



TOWN OF WEST BOYLSTON PLANNING BOARD planningboard@westboylston-ma.gov
140 Worcester Street ** West Boylston MA 01583 ** Phone 774-261-4073

MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2020

Members Present: Sarah Miles (Chair), Marc Frieden, Vincent Vignaly, Paul Anderson

Members Absent: Barur Rajeshkumar

Others Present: See Attached Sign-In Sheet

All documents referenced in these Minutes are stored and available for public inspection in the Planning Board Office located at 140 Worcester Street.

The Chair opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Citizens' Comments – Carl Barstow (3 Emily Drive) came in to ask if 100 Hartwell Street had been before the board for a marijuana facility. Mr. Barstow said originally there were going to be marijuana establishments at 215 Shrewsbury Street and 100 Hartwell Street. He was told today that the Planning Board was not aware of a marijuana facility at 100 Hartwell Street; it has been rented to UMass for record storage. Mr. Frieden said if they are renting it as warehouse, there is no change of use and therefore would not need to come before the board. Marijuana establishments/facilities that have been before the board and received Planning Board approval are 215 Shrewsbury Street, 65 West Boylston Street, and 111 Shrewsbury Street.

Old Business:

Village Center Zoning District Bylaw – With the board being satisfied with the draft bylaw, a public hearing needs to be scheduled. Mr. Vignaly explained that when the process started a few years ago, the board told people that they would invite them to an informational meeting to discuss the proposed bylaw and listen to their comments before the board moved forward with a public hearing. That way if it was found that it was not going to work, the board would not proceed further with town meeting.

CMRPC did not respond to Ms. Miles request for obtaining an abutters list and a list of owners. The assessor could be asked to provide one if CMRPC does not. Ms. Miles was concerned about the timing and thought the board should hold the public hearing and continue it if needed. The draft information will be posted on the web; comments will be directed to the whole board. Dave Femia suggested talking with the Town Administrator and the Board of Health because of concern about the corona virus. A public hearing was scheduled for April 22nd. Ms. Miles will request that the Select Board consider the zoning change and refer it to the Planning Board for inclusion as an Article on the May Town Meeting Warrant.

New Business/Review of Correspondence/Emails:

Ms. Miles asked if there had been any recommendations about cancelling or postponing the town meeting. The Board of Health will most likely advise, but the decision would come from the Select Board and Town Administrator. Ms. Miles asked how do we maintain business continuity.

The Planning Board would have to cancel meetings; if a public hearing was continued, it would have to be re-advertised and reposted.

Reports from Other Boards: Mr. Anderson said the Transportation met. Gary Kellaher (DPW) attended; various projects were discussed. The Crescent Street sidewalk project is progressing; bids were received. Newton Street and Goodale Street sidewalks were discussed; River Street was mentioned. Discussions focused mostly about the traffic light by CVS (Woodland Street and Pierce Street); Mr. Kellaher is going to contact MassDOT. Different ideas were suggested. A left turn signal phase in the light on Route 12 was also mentioned. Mr. Anderson said the traffic light at Walmart and the traffic light at Cumberland Farms are mis-timed; they are holding up traffic. Also talked about intersection improvements due to excessively wide pavement at Prospect Street and Crescent Street by the Light Plant; it makes it hard for sight lines. Mr. Kellaher suggested that CMRPC be involved in the realignment of the road.

Mr. Vignaly said the Open Space Implementation Committee met; survey work for Blueberry Hill off Goodale Street has been done as well as a preliminary layout of the trail.

Mr. Anderson said there was concern about work being done on Westland Circle on Sundays. Mr. Vignaly visited the site and said interior work on the houses was being done, which is allowed on Sundays. PB limited subdivision construction banning work on Sundays, but the lot work is done by the owners; the intention is to not be a nuisance to the neighbors.

Invoices were approved for payment.

Mr. Anderson made a motion to approve the draft February 26, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes and Public Hearing Minutes for 249 West Boylston Street; Mr. Frieden seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved.

March 25, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. was confirmed as the next regular meeting date and time.

Mr. Frieden made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Anderson seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Date Accepted: _____

By: _____
Vincent P. Vignaly, Clerk

Submitted by: _____
Melanie Rich