

Planning Board Meeting Minutes

November 13th, 2023

7:00 PM

8:05 PM

Board members Keisha Garnett, John Bonanno, & Guy Lehouillier were present. Dustin Bachelder, Carol Goode, & Myles Heard are unable to attend.

Meeting minutes from October 9th approved as typed.

Karen Bachelder submitted a sketch of the property on South Hiram Road where the daycare is being built. She is proposing a change in the parking arrangements on the lot; looking to add parking at the rear of the building for staff. Initially she asked the CEO what his thoughts were on adding it in the front, but he felt it would be safer in the back, and there was sufficient room back there for it.

Board voted to approve said change to Karen's CUP. Emma wrote in an addendum on her CUP on file and had chairman sign.

Guy explained that LD2003 is going to be in effect in January and seeing as the Planning Board doesn't have anything for it, we are already behind. He feels it would be a good idea to try and get something done for Town Meeting in March so that we have something for when the law goes into effect.

Guy stated that he has a draft that he can have completed by Thanksgiving for the Planning Board to review. Keisha mentioned holding a workshop on November 27th, Emma stated she would check with the board via email tomorrow and go from there. If that date doesn't work, we could move it to December 4th. Emma reminded the board that the Planning Board would need to have a Public Hearing at least 20 days in advance to bring it to Town Meeting to be voted on.

Guy showed his draft of the Marijuana Ordinance. He got some ideas from other towns' ordinances and the state website.

Keisha likes the idea of having a simple ordinance that is short and sweet and straight to the point. She had the idea of having additional application fees for Marijuana, basically to safeguard the town in case they needed to consult with legal or incurred any legal fees in dealing with marijuana issues. She also would like to have citing from the land use ordinance in the Marijuana ordinance, as well as definitions, what districts businesses are and are not permitted in, etc. She suggested referring to state law. Conversation came back to enforcement. Questions on how much enforcement the town really has over marijuana, and how we even know what is really going on in these businesses and if they are really following the ordinance, or even state law. Emma pulled up Brownfield's marijuana ordinance and it was similar to the type of formatting that Keisha would like to see in our towns ordinance.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emma Quellette