

Bradford Planning Board Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2023

Members Present: Tom Allen, Joyce Dyer, Ronald Jack, Randy Margraf. Alternates: Andrew Miller and Tim Bubar

Members Absent: Brian Parker (anticipated absence)

Meeting Called to Order: 6:05

Board Discussion: Joyce opened the meeting stating that she had been asked to serve as Chair until the Planning Board elected a Chair and a Secretary. Since Brian Parker wasn't attending, Andrew Miller served in his stead.

Joyce reviewed the appointment tenures established by the Select Board from one of its previous meetings. The goal in staggering appointment expiration dates was to ensure Planning Board continuity. The following reflect the decision of the Selectmen:

Ron Jack/Brian Parker – 3 yr. appts

Tom Allen/Randy Margraf – 2 yr. appts

Joyce Dyer – 1 yr. appt

Andrew Miller/Tim Bubar – 1 yr. appts as alternates

Joyce reviewed the training opportunities available for Planning Board members from MMA including: *Local Planning Boards and Board of Appeal Workshop* in Augusta on 10/12/23; *Local Planning Board and Boards of Appeal Webinar* on 12-6-2023 (remote access via ZOOM) and *Understanding the Freedom of Access Act Webinar* on 12-18-23 (remote access via ZOOM). Anyone planning to attend the workshops should coordinate with the Town Manager to be registered and have the Town pay for the class.

Joyce passed out a copy of a letter from former town counsel Farrell, Resenblatt & Russell. The letter discussed the federal ***Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000*** (RLUIPA) protecting religious assemblies from unduly burdensome land use regulations. It explained the requirement for the CEO to develop an alternative for the Amish community seeking an exemption to Article 1320 of Bradford's Land Use Ordinance.

Planning Board members were encouraged to attend the Public Hearing on September 18, 2023 for the proposed Moratorium Ordinance on Rooming Houses and Shelters as well as an Ordinance on Local Food Sovereignty.

Joyce shared information on LD-2003 requiring municipalities to review ordinances and propose changes to comply with the State's requirement to create more permissive residential housing, including accessory dwelling units. The Town must have the work done by July 1, 2024.

Planning Board Decisions:

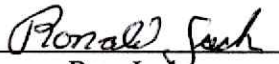
Following a review of the Planning Board By-laws, officer elections were held. Ron Jack nominated Joyce Dyer for both Chair and Secretary positions. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The group agreed to meet the 2nd Wed of each month. The next meeting will be Oct. 11, 2023. Tim mentioned he may not be available for the Oct. 11 meeting due to a prior commitment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30.



Joyce Dyer




Ron Jack



Tom Allen



Randy Margraf



Andrew Miller