

Minutes of the Town of Lee Planning Board
September 12, 2022
6:00pm Lee Town Hall/Hybrid

A regular meeting of the Lee Planning board was held virtually in accordance with Governor Baker's Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law (MGL Chapter 30A, Section 20) on Monday, September 12, 2022 at 6:00pm.

Present: Buck Donovan (Chair), Peg Biron (hybrid), Conrad Decker (alternate), Peter Bluhm and David Forrest.

Others Present: Kathy Hall and Patrick McColgan.

Call to Order

Chairperson Donovan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. For the record he informed those in attendance that the meeting was being recorded.

Public Comment

Resident Hall briefly discussed pickleball at the athletic field on Housatonic Street.

Form-A Application – 19 Bramble Lane

Patrick McColgan introduced himself representing Taconic Land Consultants.

Mr. McColgan stated that his clients are proposing to swap a small triangular piece of land to fix some encroachments issues. He also stated the swap would not affect frontage or setbacks.

Mr. McColgan shared pictures of a ground level boardwalk showing it is not a raised structure on property.

Alternate Member Decker stated there is no problem because the plan meets the setback requirements.

Member Bluhm moved to endorse the Form-A Application for 19 Bramble Lane; Member Forrest seconded. Planning Board voted (5-0).

(Decker – aye; Bluhm – aye; Forrest – aye; Biron – aye; Donovan – aye)

Discussion/Update – Master Plan Committee

Member Bluhm stated the Committee held their first meeting September 7, 2022 and the attendance was slightly different than expected.

Member Bluhm stated the Committee members introduced themselves, discuss what they cared about and discuss their hopes for the new plan.

Member Bluhm stated they heard a presentation from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission about the purpose of plans, how they work and how they don't work.

Member Bluhm stated the 2020 US census data for Lee is not available yet.

Member Bluhm stated the Committee elected a Chair, himself, and a Vice Chair, Betsy Strickler. He also stated the Committee will meet the third Monday of each month.

Member Bluhm stated the next agenda would consist of trying to identify the sections of the final plan and produce a list of people the staff will talk to for each section.

Member Bluhm moved to appoint members on record: Kathy Hall, Mark Navin, Thom Swift, Sean Regnier, Kirk Nichols, Betsy Strickler, Peter Bluhm, Diane Wespiser, Bobbi Paley, David Buttery and Jack Tucker as the Master Plan Consulting Committee; Member Biron seconded. Planning Board voted (5-0).

(Decker – aye; Bluhm – aye; Forrest – aye; Biron – aye; Donovan – aye)

The Board briefly discussed bringing more diversity into the Committee.

Member Biron stated she would like to see walking loops and green spaces in the town. She also stated the importance of preserving the historic nature of the town.

Other Topics

Chairperson Donovan stated concerns with Canna Provisions new sign on Housatonic Street and confirmed that no sign permit was applied for.

The Board decided to reach out to the owner of Canna Provisions and ask what the future plans are for the building.

Chairperson Donovan stated concerns with dumpster at the Green Theory growth facility on Route 102 and whether the site plan included a screened dumpster.

The Board decided to request the Building Commissioner reach out to see if construction is complete and remind of site plan commitment.

Member Biron stated interest on representing the Planning Board on the Community Preservation Act Committee. The Board supported her request.

Member Bluhm moved to adjourn. Planning Board voted (5-0).

(Decker – aye; Bluhm – aye; Forrest – aye; Biron – aye; Donovan – aye)

Meeting adjourned. 6:46 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Mead
Administrative Assistant