

**New Marlborough Planning Board
Wednesday May 11, 2016**

Attendees:

Chair: Holly Morse

Members: Mark Carson, Charlie Parton

Other attendees: Jane Tant (secretary)

Call to Order: 7:04 pm

Review of Mail:

Town of Monterey Notice of Decision to grant a special permit to Michael J. and Elizabeth A. Germain for alterations to the premises at 70 Tyringham Road.

Town of Great Barrington Notice of Decision to grant a two year extension of the period to exercise three special permits for the permitted project at 546 Main Street.

Invitation from Home Instead Senior Care Pittsfield to a Pittsfield Council on Aging Breakfast to be held on May 26, 2016.

Review of Minutes:

Minutes of the April 27, 2016 meeting were approved.

Continuing Business:

The meeting began with reflections from the Town Meeting on May 2, 2016. Mr. Parton stated the feedback he received from the Selectboard was residents saw the dimension changes in the proposed amendment to the Protective Bylaws as a "slippery slope". Following some additional sharing of views, Ms. Morse suggested a review of what transpired at the Town Meeting might be important as the Planning Board considers future actions.

New Business:

Ms. Morse reported she was tendering her resignation from the Planning Board. She noted the Chairmanship was scheduled to rotate with Mr. Parton assuming the position of Chair and Mr. Carson assuming the position of Vice-Chair. Ms. Morse also noted Ms. Hardyman was considering whether she would elect to fill the membership position to which she was recently elected. Ms. Hardyman did not submit her name for the Planning Board vacancy but was nominated and approved as a candidate at Town Caucus. She subsequently received 189 votes in the annual Town election.

Discussion moved to focus on update and revision of the Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP). Ms. Morse noted the Town shortage of cemetery space might be an appropriate issue to address in the revised document. She noted the Selectboard was not successful in effecting an exchange of Town land with the New Marlborough Land Trust because the Town did not hold title to any land which the Land Trust deemed qualified for conservation. Ms. Morse further recommended that changes to the OSRP be limited to those necessary to keep it

current and reflective of any needs not previously addressed. Mr. Parton stated he had reviewed the last version of the document and had annotated areas which appear to need change. He said he would make arrangements to have Ms. Lauren Gaherty from the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) attend the next scheduled Planning Board meeting to discuss revision of the OSRP.

Mr. Parton also noted that conservation and use of potable water resources is an issue he hopes to be able to explore as part of the OSRP revision. Ms. Morse said she would forward to Mr. Parton the information needed to apply for a grant to conduct a Water Needs Assessment in New Marlborough. She reported Mr. Tom Stalker sent information on the grant application to the Selectboard which forwarded it to her. When she made inquiry about the application, she received the response that the grants were aimed at communities which matched the profile of Town of New Marlborough.

Ms. Morse offered to meet with Mr. Parton to pass on information she accumulated during her term as Chair. Mr. Parton indicated he looked forward to this opportunity.

Ms. Morse noted two more issues that the Planning Board might want to address:

- The lack of regulation on fencing in the current Protective Bylaws
- The potential creation of an Historic District in the village of New Marlborough.

Ms. Morse stated John Schreiber informed her the Historical Commission is currently inactive but he offered to assist the Planning Board in writing language for formation of such a district, if they so desire.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm.