

TOWN OF BENNINGTON
PLANNING BOARD
Minutes of the Meeting- August 24, 2009

Present Jeffrey Rose, Chairman
 Barry White, Vice Chairman
 Melissa Stewart
 Peter Eppig
 Joseph Cuddemi, Ex- Officio

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

An update was given on the Zyck Daycare. It was noted that adequate fencing is now in place. The fencing shall serve as a good deterrent but is not a barrier. Melissa made a motion to accept that Mrs. Zyck has met the conditions required of her. The Board accepted the conditions as met noting that the conditions must be maintained to stay in good standing.

An update was given on the Stockwell property. Possible options were discussed for the property. It was noted that the property was a challenge due to the lack of road frontage. If the property could be developed as an OSRD, it could be brought into conformance. A reconfiguration would be based on an 87-foot frontage located on a class 5 road. The Planning Board is open to hearing from Mr. Stockwell with a new proposal for the property. The Board shall look into other OSRD property in town to use as a reference. A letter shall be sent to Mr. Stockwell noting that the Board would entertain other options for the property.

A discussion was held on the Harris Gravel Pit. Barry White stated that there is no evidence that the property has had any reclamation work done. Mr. Harris has requested that the Town return the interest from the money held by the Town in escrow. A letter will be sent to the Harris' noting that the cost of reclamation has increased and a consultant should be hired to define actual cost for reclamation of the site. The original agreement stated that the interest from the Harris CD would be added to the principle, to be given back after such time as the reclamation is completed. Mr. Harris could withdraw the CD and provide the Town with a bond as other gravel pits have done but until such time as the reclamation process is complete, the Town shall hold the money. It was noted that the Planning Board could place a complaint with the State if needed concerning the amount of acreage open at the Harris Pit. The State would send someone out to check the pit for reclamation.

The Board placed the work on the Driveway Regulations on hold until the September meeting when the Road Agent could be present. Gary Russell would be invited to attend the September 14, 2009 meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Barry White spoke about the non-binding referendum presented to the townspeople in March concerning the merger of the local fire and police forces. It was noted that it should be presented to the Selectmen as an update at this time.

Barry White noted that the Town could acquire the Catholic cemetery located next to Evergreen Cemetery and merge them together.

Barry White notified the Planning Board that he would be giving his notice to the ZBA as an alternate. He will continue attending the ZBA meetings as a liaison for the Planning Board.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Debra Belcher
Planning Board Recording Secretary