

TOWN OF BENNINGTON
PLANNING BOARD
Minutes of the Meeting- September 14, 2009

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

Guests Peter Martel, ZBA liaison (arrived at 9:00 p.m.)

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Gary Russell was not available to attend the meeting as planned as he is injured but was willing to be contacted by phone if needed. The Board was scheduled to work on updating the Driveway Regulations. The Board reviewed the current regulations, proposed changes from the Road Agent and Fire Department as well as existing regulations from surrounding towns. It was noted that the Board should keep the regulations simple.

Melissa Stewart entered the regulations into the computer so that a working copy would be available. The first line of the regulation shall be that the Road Agent will issue the driveway permit. Any driveway having access on a State Highway shall comply with RSA 236:13. A driveway permit will be required before a building permit may be obtained. The Road Agent shall oversee the driveway permit. Driveway pitch was discussed as well as driveway grade, maximum slope, driveway width, turnarounds and passing areas. Peter Eppig suggested that when the document is completed, the Board have Town Counsel look at it. It was noted that the application fee will need to be updated.

The Board discussed the requirements suggested by the Fire Department. The Board felt that requiring a passing area every 300 feet and a turnaround area at the end of a driveway that is more than 300 feet is sufficient as well as making sure the entrance is sufficient for fire apparatus. It was suggested that the Fire Department sign off on driveways that have a need for a turnaround.

A call was made to Code Enforcement Officer, Peter Hopkins but he was unavailable at the time.

The Board would like to have Allen Wilson, Fire Chief at the next meeting (September 28, 2009) to ask about fire codes and if driveways need to meet fire codes as well as who enforces them. The Board would also like to know the current process for applications.

An update was given on the Stockwell property. Mr. Stockwell has been invited to come speak with the Planning Board about a new plan for an OSRD.

The review of minutes were tabled for the next meeting.

On the agenda for the October 12, 2009 meeting is Rex Gray and a site plan review for condos. It was suggested that Peter Hopkins be present at the meeting.

As there was no other business, the Planning Board adjourned the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Debra Belcher
Planning Board Recording Secretary