

TOWN OF BENNINGTON
PLANNING BOARD
Minutes of the Meeting- March 22, 2010

Present Jeffrey Rose, Chairman
 Barry White, Vice Chairman
 Peter Eppig
 Melissa Stewart
 Josh Hall, Alternate
 Sam Cohen, Alternate

Guests Terry Hardwick
 Donald Hardwick
 Mike Dahlberg, engineer for the Hardwicks

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Melissa Stewart was sworn in as a Planning Board member.

A reminder was given about the upcoming Spring Planning and Zoning Conference on May 8. Barry White questioned the location of the conference. He will confirm the location.

The Board began an informal completeness review for the Hardwick application. The Hardwicks have both a new project and a permit renewal. It was noted that the Board would like to have a key on the map as well as an update of what is currently done at the pit. A State permit is in process. The Board would also like to have square footage listed on the map. The map currently shows acreage. It was noted that at the time of the Public Hearing, a color-coded map will be available. An erosion and sedimentation plan will be addressed. There is no known history of complaints during the Hardwick's operational history. A sketch will be supplied of the operation as open verses completed as well as what is planned to be reclaimed in the next three years. Mr. Hardwick can give a broad estimate of the projected completion date but there is no real way of pinpointing that down at this time.

A site walk will be scheduled for April 10, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. The Board will meet at the Town Hall and proceed to the pit site.

Mike Dahlberg, the engineer for the Hardwicks, presented the proposed plan for the new operation. A large quantity of ledge will be harvested and processed on site. A hill approximately ninety feet high will be leveled. The duration of the project is predicted to be twenty to thirty years. The ledge will be blasted but the blasting pattern can not be determined until the ledge is exposed. The project will be done in small sections. The stone will be crushed on site. As there is no history of blasting in the area, the Board will proceed with care. Barry White asked about possible problems from the blasting such as cracked foundations and airborne pollution. The timeframe for the actual blasting would be to drill for a couple weeks and do the required blasting at one time. The Police and Fire Departments would be notified seventy- two hours prior to the blasting and the abutters would also be notified. The application for the site will go to the

Conservation Commission to review also. Chairman Rose inquired about the possible number of trucks that will be required. The number of trucks used should not be more than the busiest year that the Hardwick operation has had. They do not expect that their business will pick up quickly due to the current economy. Much of the stone from this new operation will be used by the Hardwicks. It was noted that the hours of operation will stay the same as it currently is. It was also stressed that the new operation is not a quarry. The plan will produce an eleven acre flat area. The Board will contact the Police Department and the Fire Department about noise, dust and other possible concerns from a blasting operation.

A Public Hearing is scheduled for April 12, 2010 at 7:45 p.m. at the town Hall where the Planning Board will address a pit renewal and a site plan review.

In other business, the Board accepted a nomination from Sam Cohen for Jeffrey Rose as Planning Board Chairman. All were in favor. Peter Eppig nominated Melissa Stewart as Planning Board Vice Chairman. All were in favor.

As there was no other business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Debra Belcher
Planning Board Recording Secretary