

TOWN OF BENNINGTON
PLANNING BOARD
Minutes of the Meeting- June 24, 2013

Present David McKenzie, Chairman
 Christopher Maple, Vice Chairman
 Sam Cohen
 Jeffrey Rose, Ex-Officio
 Peter Martel

Chairman McKenzie called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

The minutes of the June 10, 2013 meeting were reviewed and accepted as written.

The Board discussed the matter of a Compliance Hearing for the Joshi case decision. It was suggested that the Board ask the LGC for generic advice. It was noted that at this time the crack in the retaining wall has not been fixed. Two different plans to fix the wall have been presented to the Board. No certificate of occupancy can be issued until such time as all stipulations from the Planning Board have been met. As the Planning Board did not give a deadline in the written decision, Peter Martel suggested that the Board could give a timeline and if the work is not done, have the work done and charged to the owner. It was noted that the owner also has not filed the condo documents with the State. It was suggested that the Board ask the town attorney if the town can get the documents filed.

The Board members updated the Zoning Ordinances in their binders.

A Notice of Decision was received from Frankestown concerning the Compliance Hearing for Crotched Mountain Ski and Ride. The ski area was found to be not in compliance. It was noted that Crotched Mountain was not represented at the continuance of the Hearing. The Board will place the Notice of Decision on file.

It was noted that Christopher Maple has e-mailed Harrisville's zoning ordinance to the other Board members for review.

David McKenzie shared copies of the Newport Master Plan, as well as a questionnaire and vision statement. It was agreed upon that the Board Members bring the questionnaire home and make adjustments to it to make it fit Bennington. This will be worked on at the next meeting. Sam Cohen presented a suggestion for the vision statement, which is attached to the minutes.

Peter Martel asked if the Board Members would be willing to meet on a different day and only meet once a month for the summer. The town-wide schedule was reviewed and no other alternative was decided on. The Board agreed to meet only on the second Monday of July and August unless a case is on the agenda. The Chairman will post the cancellation of the second meeting.

There being no other business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Debra Belcher

Here's a REAL "vision statement"
For the Town of Bennington Master Plan
(Sam Cohen 6/24/13)

Maintain the roads, maintain an adequate police department, fire department, library, and cemeteries, and don't let the air and well-water get polluted. Other than that, leave people alone and above all, keep the taxes as low as possible.