

TOWN OF BENNINGTON
PLANNING BOARD
Minutes of the Meeting- January 5, 2015

Present David McKenzie, Chairman
 Christopher Maple, Vice Chairman
 Sam Cohen

Guests Jonathan Manley
 Robyn Manley
 Thomas James
 Charlotte James

Chairman McKenzie called the Public Hearing for a proposed Zoning Ordinance change to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman McKenzie noted that the Planning Board reviewed the responses from the Master Plan survey and found that the Town's people indicated that they are in favor of small scale farming in all town districts. Mr. James presented a list of signatures of people that are in favor of the proposed ordinance. Most of the people that Mr. James surveyed live in the Village District. Mr. Manley suggested that the Planning Board might like to define small scale farming. The Planning Board members do not want to try to define it and possibly create a problem. It was noted that the proposed ordinance is close to the ordinance from Hancock. Farm stands are not permitted as an accessory use but would need to meet all provisions of the zoning ordinance. The proposed ordinance would apply to all districts and allow small scale farming as a business. Sam Cohen made a motion to accept the proposed ordinance as written and move forward to presenting it to the voters. Christopher Maple seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The minutes of the December 8, 2014 meeting were reviewed and accepted with a minor change.

As there is nothing currently on the agenda for January 12, 2015, the meeting will tentatively be cancelled. Chairman McKenzie will email the Board later in the week in case there is any reason for the Board to meet.

There being no other business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Debra Belcher
Planning Board Recording Secretary