

TOWN OF BENNINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

Minutes of the Meeting- September 11, 2017

Minutes Accepted on October 9, 2017

Present Christopher Maple, Vice Chairman
Jeffrey Rose, Ex Officio
Sam Cohen
Donald Trow

Guest Dario Carrara

Vice Chairman Maple called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

The minutes of the August 14, 2017 were reviewed and accepted as written.

Sam Cohen presented an updated draft proposal for changes to the Bennington Zoning Ordinance for Home Business. Code Enforcement Officer, Dario Carrara was present to discuss the ordinance. Mr. Carrara noted that he would suggest the Board consider having an application with no fees for part of the process. The majority of the Board was against having an application. The general rule for home business will be that if there is a problem a complaint will be voiced. At that time the home business will be reviewed with the checklist and enforcement will be determined. The Board noted the desire to keep it simple. Mr. Carrara noted that Antrim now has a Home Business Ordinance which is vague and is very hard to enforce. The proposed Home Business Ordinance does not give any way of measuring the noise level. Sam Cohen noted that State RSA 644:2 states that unreasonable noises include noises that would disturb a person of average sensibilities. The State uses a common sense approach to regulating noise. As there is time before the ordinance needs to be finalized, it was tabled until the October Planning Board meeting.

As there was no other business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Debra Belcher
Planning Board Recording Secretary