

Sutton Planning Commission
Minutes of meeting 1/23/2018
6:00 PM, Sutton Town Offices

In attendance: Paul Brouha (chair), Chip Devenger, Lucien Belanger, Hank Parker, Darlene Ahrens (Sutton PC); Brandon Mazur

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Brandon read the draft minutes of a Development Review Board meeting on 8-8-17. Chip moved to accept the minutes as read. Hank seconded, and after a vote the minutes were accepted.

Next, Brandon read the draft minutes of the Sutton Planning Commission meeting on 11-17-18. Hank moved to accept the minutes as read. Chip seconded, and after a vote the minutes were accepted.

Then, Brandon read the draft minutes of a meeting of the Planning Commission on 12-08-17. Hank moved to accept the minutes as read. Lucien seconded. Finding no exception, the minutes were accepted.

Finally, Brandon read the minutes of the Development Review Board meeting on 1-16-18. Chip moved to accept the minutes as read. Hank seconded, and after a vote the minutes were accepted.

The Planning Commission reminded members of the need to review the draft Energy Planning Subcommittee Charter, as it was sent out for consideration and comment in late September. Paul agreed to send it to member again.

Next, the moving and renovation of the Grange Hall was discussed. The Town of Sutton owns the building, as well as the school, town offices, and garage. Potential uses for the new space could be Select Board, Planning Commission, and Development Review Board meetings, other public meetings, meetings of private groups for a nominal fee, elections, before and after-school care programs, receptions/private functions, meal site, co-op freezer/meat locker, community cannery, farmer's market, and displays of historic items. An outreach campaign was discussed. The Planning Commission has between now and Town Meeting to apprise neighbors and other voters of potentials for the Grange Hall to ensure a favorable vote on the non-binding bonding article. A door-to-door campaign focused on of the residents of the village will be conducted February 6-9, and an informal public informational meeting with refreshments will be held on February 13 at 6:30 P.M in the multipurpose room of the school

Next, technical amendments to the Unified Development Bylaws were reviewed and considered. Changes to the language in the Scenic and Working Lands Districts were proposed. The changes to the language of the Scene District and some of the Working Lands districts had been approved in a prior meeting. Also proposed was a change to section 701, allowing transfers of less than one acre to be reviewed as subdivisions and require only a Zoning Permit and sketch. Hank moved to approve the draft language. Lucien seconded. Hank recommended two commas. After a vote, the change was accepted. Darlene moved to approve the additional changes to the Working Lands District. Chip seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed. Finally, changes to the public notice of proposed development (the red P signs) were proposed. Chip moved to accept the change. Lucien seconded. There was no further discussion, and after a vote the changes were accepted.

The size of signs permitted in the town of Sutton was discussed, as well as what the new maximum should be. Darlene moved to make the new maximum allowable sign size commensurate with the currently largest freestanding sign in town or 20 square feet, whichever is larger. Paul seconded. After a vote, the motion carried.

Next, Paul presented a draft of the 2017 Report of the Planning Commission and Development Review Board. After some grammatical corrections, Paul will submit the report to the Town Clerk.

Paul moved to adjourn. Lucien seconded and the meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

These minutes prepared by Brandon Mazur, clerk.