

**Ashland Planning Board Meeting
Minutes
October 29, 2014**

Members Present: Susan MacLeod, Liz Cody, Cheryl Cox, Fran Newton,
Miriam Brown (alternate)
Members Absent: Gordon McCormack
Others Present: Kathleen DeWolfe, David Toth

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairman Susan MacLeod.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES

October 1, 2014 -- A motion was made (Fran Newton) and seconded (Liz Cody) to approve the minutes of October 1, 2014. The minutes were approved by a unanimous 4-0 vote.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Correspondence was received from Tony Randall indicating that an inconsistent boundary line between the Landroche and Lyford properties has been clarified. The disputed section will now be part of tax map lot 15-1-9, on Summer Street, owned by Jerome and Kathy Landroche. An updated plot plan was received which clarifies the boundary and it has been filed with the Registry. Chair MacLeod initialed the plan and will place it on file.

Workshops

November 13, 14 – “Strengthening Your Facilitation Skills” (UNH Cooperative Extension & HEAL) -- Franklin

November 15 – “Facilitator Training” (UNH Cooperative Extension & NH Listens) – Claremont

November 1 -- NH Association of Conservation Commissions – Annual meeting, including focus on getting younger people involved

NEW BUSINESS

Grants

Fran Newton reviewed the recently submitted proposal to the DES for a competitive Brownfields Assessment Grant to evaluate the mill property owned by Scott Heath. Two \$100,000 grants will be awarded at the end of December 2014. Contacts which provided input included Eli Badger, Tony Giunta and Tim Andrews of Nobis Engineering, and LRPC. Others involved in writing the grant included Fran Newton, Norm DeWolfe, Sue MacLeod, Steve Felton, David Toth, Mardean Badger, and Eli Badger. The Ashland Economic Development Committee will be establishing a sub-committee to focus on the mill area.

On Wednesday, November 5, the oral presentation of the TAP grant application will be given to LRPC in Meredith.

Fran Newton reviewed a recent meeting with Mike Scala, aide to Kelly Ayotte. As a result of the meeting, she received a note from Michael Tentnowski, the Director of the Enterprise Center (Grafton County Economic Development Committee), offering to speak about what assistance may be available from interns. The Economic Development Committee has also made contact with the Enterprise Center. A meeting will be scheduled shortly.

Grant opportunities are received from many organizations (NHMA, DES, etc.). Chair MacLeod expressed a need for all town departments to share such information with each other in a timely manner. For example, a \$20,000 grant is available for local source water protection. And a grant from the Recreational Trails program is due November 14.

OLD BUSINESS

The revised wording for the warrant article to establish a Heritage Commission has been shared with Planning Board members. It is ready to submit to the Board of Selectmen and to the town attorney for review.

OTHER BUSINESS

Protocol of Meetings

Chair MacLeod reviewed a few sections from the Planning Board Job Descriptions, which addressed the philosophy of the Ashland Planning Board and professional expectations of Board members.

Land Use Oversight Committee

Members include Planning Board Chair, Zoning Board Chair, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement, Life Safety (Fire Chief), Housing Standards Board Chair, Health Officer. Fran Newton noted that a current task is to review town ordinances to ensure that they are up-to-date and to identify any which need to be added. One topic that needs to be considered is community standards or how property conditions affects one's neighbors. The committee is receptive to any information or suggestions from the Planning Board members. Suggestions offered include checking with Laconia's recent similar ordinance work and sponsoring a possible town-wide "pride in place" clean-up day.

Updates

Dollar General is expected to open soon. Other questions included determination of progress of Mr. Page's nano-brewery, Twice Around the Shop status, and possible expiration of a subdivision permit. No information was available.

Non-Lapsing Fee Accounting

Chair MacLeod expressed concern about the progress of establishing a non-lapsing accounting fund for land use fees. The Board of Selectmen has approved the fund, but the process of establishment of the fund has been questioned by the Town Administrator and the Finance Officer. Fran Newton recommended pursuing this item with the Budget Committee and again with the Board of Selectmen.

The November 5 Planning Board meeting at 7:00 pm will be preceded by a public hearing at 6:30 to address application changes and revision of the wetlands definition.

Upon a motion (Newton) and second (Cody), the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Minutes submitted by Mardean Badger