

Bristol Planning Commission Meeting

June 6, 2017

Commission member: Katie Raycroft-Meyer (chair), Sue Kavanagh, Kris Perlee, Anna Daylor (vice chair), Gary Clark, Bill Sayre

Others: Eric J Forand (zoning admin)

Public: Eric Carter, Amanda Dickerson, Erica Murphy

Public hearing permit 17-20

Public hearing for permit 17-20 continued from May 16, 2017. The ZA stated that the applicant had withdrawn the permit. Kris made a motion to close the public hearing due to the withdrawal of the application, seconded by Sue. All were in favor (5-0). Motion passed. Bill was not present for the vote.

Minutes

Kris made a motion to accept as presented the minutes from the May 16, 2017, seconded by Gary. All were in favor (5-0). Motion passed. Bill was not present for the vote.

Administrative matters:

The ZA informed the Commission that two right of way applications have been scheduled to be heard at the July 18th meeting. Both Sue and Gary are not available on that date. Katie took a straw poll and others are available. Katie will check with Bill Brown to verify that a quorum can be achieved.

Public comment:

Eric Murphy came to the Commission to discuss an issue she is having with a neighbor. She feels that the neighbors' fencing is inadequate to retain her horses and would like to see a zoning regulation address the issue. She would like to have specifics on the structure, strength etc. for fences that are constructed to house animals. Kris explained the process of making amendments to the Regulations and stated that even if the Regulations were changed it would not rectify this situation. Erica described how the horses were being mistreated and Katie informed her that the issue of animal welfare is not under the purview of this Commission. Kris stated that the Selectboard could address the fence issue through an ordinance. Various Commission members also suggested trying to work out the issue directly with the neighbor or through civil court.

Eric Carter asked why this was in front of this Commission as it wasn't something the PC should be dealing with. It was explained that Erica was here to discuss the possibility of a Zoning Regulation amendment that addressed fencing. Eric felt the Town Office should take care of issues like these and not the PC.

Amanda Dickerson, the neighbor, feels that this is a civil issue and should be resolved between her and Erica. She described how her horses are not mistreated and Katie informed her that was

not under the purview of this Commission. Amanda described that since the fence was repaired at the end of last summer the horses have only gotten out twice, both times there was an issue with the electric fence.

The Commission reiterated that they would take the fence suggestion under advisement in future Regulation amendments.

The Commission discussed what constitutes an adequate site plan map. Katie stated it has to be drawn to scale. The Commission deliberated on having a handout outlining the requirements for a site plan. The ZA stated he felt it was already outlined in the Regulations and that outline should be used. The Commission discussed that an application should not go in front of them until the documents outlined in the regulations are provided to the ZA.

Bill S. took the floor to discuss the proposal from the River Conservancy about the River Hazard Corridor. He felt that the PC should not apply more regulations to those properties in the hazard zone. He felt the monetary amount the Town would receive in the event of a flood would not compensate for the increased burden of these regulations. Kris indicated he would like to see what has been done in other towns and has it worked. Katie mentioned that the River Conservancy will be coming back to the PC meeting in September.

Kris made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Anna. All were in favor (6-0). Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Eric J Forand