

Town of Starksboro
Planning Commission meeting
Minutes of March 3, 2022
Draft

Board members present: Dennis Casey, Brad Boss, Dan Nugent, Jeff Keeney, Denny Barnard, David Schmidt

Unable to attend: Dan Harris

Others present: Kris Perlee (ZA), Rebecca Elder

The meeting was called to order to 7:15 p.m. by Chair Dennis Casey. The meeting was in person at the Town Office and via Zoom

Visitor's Business –

R. Elder discussed the town e-mail accounts. She will be working out the bugs with other departments and then will have discussion with PC.

Current Business

Approve February 17, 2022 Minutes

Motion to approve with corrections by D. Nugent, 2nd B. Boss. So voted (6-0)

D. Casey introduced D. Schmidt as the newest member of the PC

Organizational Meeting

Chair: D. Casey – D. Nugent made motions, B. Boss 2nd. So voted (6-0)

Vice Chair: J. Keeney – D. Casey made motion, D. Nugent 2nd. So Voted (6-0)

Secretary: D. Barnard – J. Keeney made motion, D. Nugent 2nd. So voted (6-0)

PC Roundtable

D. Casey discussed D. Harris. He will talk to him to find out his plans. Would like to stay on, but the PC needs a full board to be able to do its work. If he decides not to continue the Selectboard will appoint replacement.

J. Keeney asked when they will work on the zoning regulations. D. Casey explained that the work they are doing is the first step for the updates. K. Perlee will pull together a timeline with a goal of March 2023 submission to the Selectboard.

General discussion around the State reps meeting with the PC. D. Casey will work with R. Elder to set these meetings up. R. Elder mentioned Ruth Hardy has voiced interest in meeting with towns.

D. Nugent gave update on Jerusalem schoolhouse. The DRB meets on 03/10/2022 to continue the site plan review and possible waiver request.

B. Boss discussed the snowmobile use of town road. D. Casey stated that snowmobiles are good for the town and the Jerusalem Store could greatly benefit from the trail. D. Schmidt gave overview of meeting and site visits with VAST and neighbors on Sunday. D. Schmidt will write up letter to submit to the Selectboard stating the PC's support of the trail and use of the town roads.

B. Boss asked about what, if any, follow-up was needed with GMP. A discussion around whether there would be any benefit to have the Co-op meet with the PC. Considering their limited coverage area the PC doesn't feel a meeting is needed.

Discussion of MAUSD Merger Plans

D. Casey explained that the Merger Study Group hasn't met lately. The SOS committee is pushing the merger group to allow towns to vote. Discussion around the state making amendments to Act 46 to make it harder for schools to leave Supervisory Districts. Based on timeline of possible change there is an urgency to have the town vote on whether to leave the SD or not. A petition of about 70 names will be needed to allow the Selectboard to have a special meeting and vote. The Selectboard wants to make sure the question asked to the votes is clear and simple.

Next meeting: **March 17, 2022**

Motion to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.: J. Keeney moved, D. Nugent second. (So voted 6-0)