

Royalton Planning Commission

DRAFT – Minutes

Monday, August 9, 2010

Members Attending: Beguin, Brandau, Gravel, Judge, Levasseur

Guests Attending: Christian Petrangelo (Note Taker)

Meeting came to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Meeting Minutes of July 26, 2010

- Levasseur stated that “may” should be substituted for “my” on second line from bottom, page 1. Judge moved to accept the minutes as amended. Brandau seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

2. RPC Reorganization: Election of Officers, Bylaws

- Levasseur stated that Select Board approved a 7-member RPC. Levasseur told Nate that RPC would work on bylaw changes and get back to him.
 - Judge moved to reelect the three main positions. Gravel seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.
 - Judge moved to confirm the driveway access subcommittee: Boles, Levasseur, and Beguin. Brandau seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.
- Judge asked if the Supreme Court has reheard the Times and Seasons case.
 - Levasseur responded that a motion is being filed (in process).
- Levasseur, referring to RPC bylaws, said that Select Board never approved them last year. If RPC wishes to make changes, it must reconsider them now:
 - Change date at top.
 - Art. III, “Appt. of Commissioners”: Edit the yellow-highlighted portion.
 - Discussion ensued about future position changes and the likelihood of finding replacements for RPC.
 - Art. IV § 5, “Conflict of Interest”: How does this work in practice?
 - Levasseur said that the individual would likely “lose face” if s/he refuses to recuse herself/himself.
 - Art. VI, “Fiscal and Operation Year”:
 - Gravel asked why the operational year differs from the fiscal year.
 - Judge stated that it allows time to reelect officers.
- Judge moved to accept the yellow-highlighted changes. Beguin seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.
- Art. VII § 2, “Special Meetings”:

- Gravel referenced “[s]pecial meetings shall be called by the Chair upon the request of four or more members of the Commission.” – Is four still the proper number?
 - Levasseur suggested changing it to three.
 - Brandau agreed.
- Judge withdrew his prior motion. Beguin withdrew her prior second. Judge moved to accept the bylaws as amended. Gravel seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

3. Other Business

- Levasseur presented four separate requests from Journey Church, two of which require an Act 250 permit.
 - *Request #1:* To use the church’s existing open field to open a paintball site.
 - Linda Madison confirmed that an Act 250 permit is required.
 - Beguin inquired about the effect of a paintball site’s noise on neighbors.
 - *Request #2:* To use an old shed for commercial storage, e.g. to store fire trucks for the South Royalton Fire Department.
 - Beguin asked if the fire department needs extra storage.
 - Gravel and Levasseur responded “yes.” Levasseur added Linda Madison’s comment that an Act 250 permit is not required.
 - *Request #3:* Not discussed.
 - *Request #4:* To establish and operate a computer recycling business in the old shed (same as commercial storage area in *Request #2*).
- Levasseur stated that Vermont Law School (“VLS”) would like to convert an existing building, Jacobs House, by adding windows, doors, etc. There will be “no negative affect on the building’s historic state.” Act 250 permit not required.
- Levasseur said that RPC must consider a zoning board administrator cost analysis (to take effect if bylaws pass). Who does RPC ask about this?
 - Brandau suggested the League of Cities and Towns, Two Rivers, and Smart Growth representatives. RPC could talk to similarly situated neighboring towns, e.g. Bethel, Barnard, and Randolph.
 - Discussion ensued about whether the zoning board administrator would be a part-time or a full-time position.
 - Judge offered that salary would factor into this decision.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

Judge moved to adjourn. Brandau seconded. All in favor. Meeting ended at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christian Petrangelo
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