

**Planning Board Meeting Minutes
January 31, 2019
Library, 7 PM**

**PRESENT: Dana MacDonald, Tilman Lukas, David Gross, Meredith Borenstein
PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Abbie Jenks, Judy Eiseman, Lexi Dewey, Pete Wilson. ALSO PRESENT: Charlie Thompson**

NOTE: The initial portion of this meeting was held in joint session in the Ramsdell Room with the Conservation Commission. The minutes drafted by David Gross are hereby appended with slight additions by Judy Eiseman recording for the Planning Board.

The meeting was brought to order by Chair MacDonald at 7:00 PM for the purpose of working out procedures for ConCom review of stormwater plans in the Village Center.

Discussion with the Planning Board to review the proposed Pelham Stormwater Bylaw. The discussion revolved around the definition of the Stormwater Authority that will oversee the proposed Stormwater Bylaw being written by the Planning Board. Chair MacDonald suggested that the Conservation Commission be the Authority and that stormwater plans be reviewed by the Commission. He further suggested that plans that are approved by the Commission pass back to the Planning Board for final approval in consort with the overall project plan.

Board member Wilson suggested that having a separate Stormwater Review Board, distinct from the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board, would better serve the town.

There was discussion about the need for an independent (from the design engineer) engineering review of a submitted stormwater plan. The independent review would be contracted by the town and would be paid by the applicant. Commissioner Lukas raised a concern that this might be burdensome for small projects. Board member Wilson noted that any problems that arise subsequent to the planned stormwater abatement construction would likely be the town's responsibility if the town did not engage an engineer in review of the abatement design. Both bodies agreed that the scale of the project should be considered.

Members of both boards agreed that monitoring during and after construction is essential. Chair MacDonald noted that DOT projects require substantial monitoring. For such projects the applicant pays for the monitoring (typically by hiring an environmental consultant).

After further discussion, it was concluded that a sensible plan would be that all stormwater plans that are submitted to the Planning Board will be forwarded to the Conservation Commission. The Commission will review such plans, write recommendations including any conditions that the Commission feels should be required. The Commission will then send its recommendations to the Planning Board, who can accept or modify the recommendations.

The Planning Board or the Commission would have the option to employ an engineer to review the plan, the cost of which would be paid by the applicant. The Planning Board will be the recognized Stormwater Authority, relying heavily upon the review of the Commission and any consultant they or the Planning

Board may find necessary to hire. A final draft of the Stormwater Bylaw is yet to be received from the PVPC consultant and will be reviewed with further discussion between the Board and Commission as well as other parties such as the Board of Health for septic, sewer and water connection issues, DPW Superintendent for driveway issues, Town of Amherst for water connection needed before final presentation to Town Meeting.

At approximately 8:30 pm the Planning Board then convened a separate meeting in the History Room to discuss the following matters:

Further discussion of the Stormwater Bylaw was deferred until the meeting of February 11.

The Board approved the minutes of January 14, 2019 as presented.

The Board approved a draft of Form A (subdivision approval not required) to be used until all forms needed are reviewed and/or drafted for use for Village Center and other projects as needed.

The next meeting is to be held on February 11 and will be devoted to finalizing the Stormwater Bylaw.