

DRAFT Select Board Meeting Minutes- 5/2/2024

Open the Meeting and Roll Call

- Chair Seidel opened the meeting at 5:31 PM.
 - *Present:* Harry Seidel (chair), Faith Minton, Michael Smith
 - *Also Present:* Georgia Flanders, Judy Newman-Rogers, Karen Coyne, John Leavitt, Martha Mical, Pier D'Aprile, Beverley Howe, Sam Carr, Derek Narducci

Volunteers for Appointment/Reappointment to Planning and Zoning Boards

- Pier D'Aprile
 - Master plan
 - Wants to take a more in-depth look at the master plan through the lens of affordability, availability, and growth/development
 - “These are macroeconomic issues... We have a crowding of housing we’ve never experienced before.”
 - Believes in balancing the preservation of Warner’s rural character with healthy growth and change
 - Experience
 - Participated in and led a number of committees across the business world
 - 2 condominium associations
 - Experience and town meetings
 - Has read notes and minutes from land use boards and the select board
 - Attended zoning board meetings for a case involving personal property
 - Does not feel that this will be a conflict of interest and would recuse himself if necessary
 - Attended meetings of the Housing Advisory Committee
 - Code of Conduct and guidelines
 - “I think difference of opinions... help make things stronger.”
 - “When you have professionals, that’s what they do- they respect each other.”
 - Has prior experience talking through difficult situations in the business world
 - Commitment to attending meetings
 - Full time resident, semi-retired
 - Able to commit to attending meetings
- Beverley Howe
 - Seeking reappointment
 - Has been involved in the Zoning Board for many years
 - “I’m interested in this town... very much so.”
 - Enjoys being involved in the Zoning Board
 - Very seldom misses meetings
 - Impartiality
 - Has recused herself in the past when conflicts of interest arise
 - Noted that many members of boards up for reappointment were resistant to the new interview process
 - Also noted the importance of finding out why highly qualified people choose not to continue serving on boards
- Derek Narducci
 - Didn’t feel that the questionnaire provided by the board was problematic despite seeking reappointment

- Attendance
 - Committed to attending meetings
- Served on the ZBA for slightly over a year
 - Feels that the work is difficult, but important
 - “I’m not always happy with the way I have to vote, but it’s not about me. It’s for the good of the town.”
- Has already attended training through the state
- Balances knowledge of RSAs with compassion for those bringing cases before the board
 - “I don’t have to deal with the consequences of a vote. The person I voted yea or nay to does, and that weighs on me.”
- Has attended meetings of other boards and committees as well despite a demanding work schedule
 - “I’d love to be here for all the meetings, but I go to the ones I can.”
- Spearheaded initiatives to make site visits for previous ZBA cases

Tax Collector- Request for Hiring a Deputy Tax Collector

- Deputy can take on the role of Tax Collector in an emergency
- Tax Collector appoints a deputy with the approval of the board
- Compensation for the deputy tax collector must fall within what has already been budgeted
- Further discussion to occur regarding online tax payment at the next board meeting
 - This would be an additional expense, although not necessarily a substantial one (\$1,500 - \$2,000)

Zoning Board Minutes

- The Zoning Board is requesting minutes that are highly detailed and nearly verbatim
- However, detailed minutes are expensive and time-consuming
 - Beneficial, but costly
- The current minute-taker for the ZBA can spend as many as 20 hours on one set of minutes
- Voice-to-text is a strong possibility
 - Devices exist to automatically generate transcripts and summaries of audio
- Better recordings can be generated with additional microphones for the Owl device
 - Microphones for meeting participants are also a possibility
- Minutes can be a burnout-inducing task, and many people who previously took minutes no longer have any desire to continue doing so

Other Business

- The YouTube channel is linked on the town website
- An official town Facebook account is being researched
 - To promote town events and other positive news in Warner
- Designated office hours for Select Board members to have open discussion with the public
 - Opportunities for face-to-face interaction with the board outside of formal meetings
 - Scheduling may prove difficult
- Building permit process
 - Issues regarding whether a surveyor can be required
 - If properties aren’t surveyed, they run the risk of noncompliance with setbacks
 - Potential for online building permits
- Interview results for Planning and Zoning boards

- To be discussed in a non-public session at the next meeting

At this time, Faith Minton made the motion to enter a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Michael Smith seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The meeting entered non-public at 7:03 PM.

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