

AMHERST PLANNING BOARD
Wednesday, February 4, 2009 8:30 PM
Town Room Town Hall
MINUTES

PRESENT: Jonathan O’Keeffe, Eduardo Suarez, Stephen Schreiber, Bruce Carson, Denise Barberet, Richard Howland, Jonathan Shefftz (7:15 PM)
ABSENT: Susan Pynchon, Ludmilla Pavlova-Gillham
STAFF: Jonathan Tucker, Planning Director; Christine Brestrup, Senior Planner; Sue Krzanowski, Administrative Assistant

After the Training Session the Planning Board entered into a regular meeting which Jonathan Shefftz, Acting Chair, opened at 8:55 PM.

I. MINUTES – Meeting of January 21, 2009

Mr. Howland MOVED: to approve the Minutes of January 21, 2009 with the grammatical corrections made by Ms. Barberet. Mr. O’Keeffe seconded.

Ms. Barberet noted that she had one more change to suggest to the wording in the fourth paragraph on page 3 to read “... should have begun...” instead of “... should have been done...”.

There was general agreement to accept this change, and the Motion passed 4-0-2 (Schreiber, Shefftz abstained; Suarez not present).

II. NEW BUSINESS – None

III. OLD BUSINESS – None

IV. FORM A (ANR) SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

Mr. Shefftz endorsed the following:

ANR2009-00004, South East Street – Richard & Louise Tietjen

V. UPCOMING ZBA APPLICATIONS

The Board decided not to review the following:

ZBA2009-00023, 160 Old Farm Road - Elly Tuti c/o Safari Transit
ZBA2009-00024, 48 North Pleasant Street - Papa Gino’s

III. OLD BUSINESS (continued)

Mr. O’Keeffe asked about the status of the Mullin Rule. Mr. Tucker said that he will contact other boards/committees to see if they are interested in being included in an article to Town Meeting to have the Mullin Rule adopted. The Planning Board may decide to propose that Town Meeting adopt it just for the Board. Other boards and committees can propose that they be added later.

VI. UPCOMING SPP/SPR/SUB APPLICATIONS – None

VII. PLANNING BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Zoning** – Mr. O’Keeffe reported that the Subcommittee reviewed upcoming Town meeting articles. West Cemetery was removed from the proposed expansion of the Municipal Parking District. The Subcommittee also discussed proposals for Taxi/Limo Services, the Main/Dickinson/High Street rezoning and talked briefly about revising the Phased Growth Bylaw. The draft text is on the website, and Mr. O’Keeffe asked Board members to review it.

- B. Master Plan** – Mr. O’Keeffe reported that the Subcommittee has worked on editing the land use chapter. A major focus has been on determining what areas constitute the “downtown”.

VIII. PLANNING BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Pioneer Valley Planning Commission** – A full Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 19, 2009 at Holyoke Community College, and will include special presentations on the Proposed New Land Use Partnership Act (LUPA) and the Revised and Re-filed Community Planning Act.

- B. Community Preservation Act Committee** – No Report

- C. Agricultural Commission** – No Report

IX. REPORT OF THE CHAIR – Mr. Shefftz said that he will not be available on the following dates: March 4 and 18, April 1 & 15.

X. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – Mr. Tucker said that some simple technical changes need to be made to the Board’s Rules and Regulations. Public hearings will need to be scheduled. These changes can be discussed at the next meeting, he said.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Howland MOVED: to adjourn this meeting at 9:10 PM. Mr. O’Keeffe seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Sue Krzanowski, Administrative Assistant

Approved:

DATE: _____