



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER PLANNING BOARD - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Council Chambers – 288 Central Avenue, Dover, NH 03820
Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2009
Meeting Time: 7:00 pm

REGULAR MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Cole, Frank Torr, Marcia Colbath, Don Andolina, Dean Trefethen, Perry Plummer, Doug Steele, John Swartzendruber, Linda Merullo

REGULAR MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Christopher Parker, Planning Director, Bruce Woodruff, City Planner, Rick Jones, Community Development Coordinator and Jennifer Bretz, Planning Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm.

Cole welcomed Linda Merullo as a full time member of the Planning Board.

1. CITIZENS FORUM

Rick Hebbard, 97 Spruce Lane, handed out a piece of pervious concrete.

Hebbard stated the pervious concrete is does not work well for this part of the country. He proceeded to explain why it didn't work well.

Hebbard asked that the Planning Board no longer grant extensions if the applicant/owner is not present. He stated that the building on Garrison/Spruce Lane was removed but the stone foundation remains. Rats from the stone foundation have come onto his property.

Jason Perkins, 350 Garrison Rd, stated he received a notice regarding the removal brush. He wanted to make the Board aware that Old Garrison Road has been named a Scenic Byway of NH. There are a lot of trees on that road that are rare to NH and he would like that taken into consideration when trimming the trees. He's concerned that PSNH is going to cut down more trees than they need to.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 25, 2009

Motion: Merullo made the motion to approve the minutes, Swartzendruber seconded. Vote: U/A

Cole asked Parker if there had been a sub committee regarding the pervious surface.

Parker stated it was something that the Environmental Committee had been discussing. The Works Athletic Club, located in Somersworth, has pervious concrete on the newer portion of the parking lot. Parker had gone there, on a Sunday, when it was raining. The water was going right through the side with pervious surface and the part that was impervious was full of puddles. The next day, the puddles were still there. A maintenance plan has to be in place and they have to educate individuals that they can not use sand or salt because it will clog up the surface.

Cole stated he's making it a policy that they will not grant requests for extensions unless the applicant is present.

Parker stated the building on Spruce Ln/Garrison Rd was demolished without a demo permit. The permit clearly states that the debris has to be removed the same day you demolish the building. He stated that he had worked with the Building Inspector and the applicant has been fined by not following the law.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Vote on CDBG Applications.

Parker stated that the Board members received a memo and recommendation from Rick Jones the Community Development Coordinator. Parker read over the recommendations. (In file)



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Cole stated the Planning Department tries to apportion the funds in such a manner that the vast majority of groups, especially the high priorities, are the ones that receive the bulk of the monies. If more money becomes available, they'll go back and look at the groups that were not able give funds to.

Motion: Andolina made the motion to pass the recommendations to City Council, Merullo seconded. Vote: U/A

Jones stated that they are receiving recovery money in the amount of \$95,000. HUD has not ruled how the money will be spent. They will know the grant amount in the next few days.

B. Consideration and vote of a request for an extension of previously approved site plan for Paolini Brothers Development, Assessor's Map K, Lot 20, zoned B-3, located at 54 Dover Point Road. (P08-15) (12 units and office building)

Motion: Andolina made the motion to remove the item from the table, Trefethen seconded. Vote: U/A

Christopher Berry, Berry Surveying and Engineering stated that when the Planning Board originally approved the project, it was conditioned on them receiving all the permits that were required which are a Federal EPA permit, a Wetlands permit and a D.O.T. permit. They've received the first two. Initially, he had requested a 90 extension from the Planning Department and subsequently, he had asked the Board for a 45 day extension. They have submitted to the D.O.T. multiple times. It has been held up due to the culvert that transects the property. The largest issue is the state does not a legal written recorded deed to the easement. The state still wants to keep the right to drain water from property. The applicant, a member of Berry Surveying and Engineering and the District Engineer met. Plans have been finalized and submitted to the D.O.T.

Trefethen asked how long the extension would be for.

Parker stated he's recommending a 90 day extension.

Motion: Torr made the motion to approve a 90 day extension expiring on June 6, 2009, Trefethen seconded. Vote: U/A

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration and acceptance of a request by Public Service of New Hampshire to trim and remove trees and brush along the right-of-way of scenic roads (Old Garrison Road and Rochester Neck Road) *(P09-11)

David Crane, arborist for PSNH, stated the work was not a result of the ice storm it is something that they do routinely. The last time Old Garrison Rd and Rochester Neck was trimmed was about 5-6 years ago. The standard length for trimming is 4 inches in diameter or less. They also trim within 8 ft to the side of the lines, 15 ft over and 10 ft below. They do take down larger trees on a case by case basis if the trees are diseased, decayed or they somehow threaten the lines. On Old Garrison Road, they have noticed two oak limbs that are dead as well as a great amount of brush. There is a fair amount of brush on Rochester Neck Road. He does not anticipate a large removal of large trees. They have made contact with all land owners on the roads.

Cole asked if there was a plan/contact person in place to express concern regarding the tree cuttings.



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Crane stated that he is available for phone calls and that Director Parker has fielded calls regarding the proposal.

Plummer asked how big of an area the lines, on Garrison Road, feed.

Crane stated the lines on Garrison Road do not feed a large amount of customers. It feeds onto Bay View Road and Rabbit Road. The number of customers impacted is very low. If there were an outage, few customers on Bay View Road would be affected. Rabbit Road would be impacted because the fuse is located at the intersection of Back River Road and Rabbit Road. When trees grow into close proximity with the lines, it can affect customers all the way back to the source.

Plummer asked if it is a scenic road, does that affect the distances that you cut.

Crane stated it doesn't play into the clearing specifications because the trees don't care that it's been designated a scenic road. They grow at the same rate and PSNH needs to anticipate that. In order to keep the limbs out of the lines, to avoid a dangerous situation, they need to maintain the same amount of clearance all around. The fact that it's designated scenic does make them a little more conservative when deciding what to cut.

Parker stated on Old Garrison it's just area between Bay View Rd and just beyond Rabbit Rd that is being trimmed.

Crane stated on Old Garrison Rd, they are going the full length of the maintained road where there is line. There is a gap in front of the Fish and Game property. They feed up Bay View Rd to a point and they feed down from Rabbit Rd to a point.

Parker stated the impact of not removing the brush and trees is the potential interruption of City wells on Rochester Neck Rd.

Crane stated the impact of an outage on Rochester Neck Rd is going to have more of an impact there than on Old Garrison Rd. Old Garrison Rd was last trimmed in 2004; Rochester Neck was last trimmed in 2003. Old Garrison Rd needs more attention because they haven't been as aggressive as they could have been.

Discussion ensued regarding abutter opinions.

Public Hearing Opened

Rick Hebbard, 97 Spruce Lane, stated he's familiar with the tree situation in Dover. He stated his disagreement with what David Crane had to say. He would like to make sure the project is done correctly.

Rob Schneider, 314 Old Garrison Rd, stated that he'd like PSNH to comply with the same regulations that the residents of the Garrison Road community follow. He would like to see a minimal amount of trimming and cutting.

Jason Perkins, 350 Old Garrison Rd, stated the Garrison Road community is bound tightly to their road. He doesn't mind the work that what was done in the past but he gets more concerned with the work that is being



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done. The section of his road affected by the storm, a pole was snapped in half and it hasn't been replaced yet. It was a result of a big pine tree coming down.

Crane stated he will report the broken pole to the nearest office. Most roadside distribution allows work in the City's easement. The town gives them the right to cut.

Cole stated that a copy of the Scenic Road written consent, which he may be signing tonight, was provided to all Board members.

Motion: Andolina made the motion to approve, Merullo seconded. Vote: U/A.
(Editor's Note: The speaker said Bay Rd, the name has been corrected.)

5. STAFF COMMENTS

Cole advised the members of the Planning Board that Ron Stock has submitted his resignation. He also stated that the Office of Energy and Planning is having their 16th annual Planning and Zoning conference.

Parker stated Trefethen had some questions about the Fish and Game land. Parker spoke to the Fish and Game office. Someone is doing a wildlife survey. The ribbons tied in that area, are to indicate where they've been. In the packets, the City Attorney provided two updates.

When they last spoke about PCA, there was a request for a "No Buses on Spruce Lane" sign be put on Spruce Ln, Piscataqua Rd and Back River Rd. The request is going to the TAC meeting on April 27th.

Parker spoke to Headmaster Bell and he is going to be putting signs up in the buses indicating that it is a PCA bus. That way the public will know that it is a PCA bus.

Parker gave a brief overview of his budget presentation that will be presented to City Council on Wednesday.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Presentation of quality of life sub-committee work.

Andolina handed out a packet on the Quality of Life.

Parker had a concern that the work being done is more Master Plan work than Ordinance and Regulation changes.

Merullo had a question about cultural and recreation events.

Trefethen stated that they have to have a balance and let things happening continue to happen. In meantime they can try to put things in action and keep everything going.

Andolina thanked Woodruff and Parker for their help.

Cole stated that he has heard from all of the sub committees. They will get together to discuss all of their works and presentations.

7. ADJOURN

Motion: Trefethen made the motion to adjourn at 8:42 pm, Merullo seconded. Vote: U/A.