

Stonington Planning Board meeting

19 October 2023

PRESENT: Renee Sewell, Ben Jackson, Bob Winters, Diana Turner

PUBLIC: Gregory and Kelly Nangle, Brian Billings, Barbara Simmonds, Priscilla Allen, Michael Bloom, Destinee DiPrima

Meeting was brought to order by the Chair at 6:30pm

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the last meeting, as written.

Moved: Turner

Second: Jackson

Approved by vote: 4:0

Item 1: *The holiday schedule for the next two Planning Board meetings (November and December) was discussed. The Board found no problem with scheduling the November meeting as planned (November 16) but there were conflicts with the December date, since it falls so close to Christmas). It was moved to keep the November meeting as planned and to cancel the December meeting altogether.*

Moved: Turner

Second: Jackson

Approved by vote: 4:0

Item 2: Site Plan renewal permit for Gregory Nangle for an art studio.
Map 4B Lot 20

A permit for this project had been previously applied for and approved, but it has expired. The owners are asking for renewal. To date, a septic system has been installed, site work has been done and the foundation is complete. Trusses and materials are on site and they are ready to begin construction. Nothing has changed from the original application so it was moved to renew the permit.

Moved: Jackson

Second: Turner

Approved by vote: 4:0

Item 3: Marijuana ordinance and laws review

An individual had approached the town about an interest in starting a business for the retail sale of marijuana products. A meeting between the Select Board and the individual was set but the individual never followed through. The Town has no ordinance or rules in place that govern this so, as a Planning Board, we have no authority to address this question. The Town must create an ordinance to deal with this before we, as a Board, can consider it. It was moved to table the question for further discussion.

Moved: Jackson
Second: Turner
Approved by vote: 4:0

Item 4: Upcoming Town Meeting ordinance review and changes

There are several existing ordinances that are currently being reviewed that include changes that must be approved at Town Meeting. They are now in the hands of the Town Attorney for opinion. After the attorney's approval, they will be sent to the Planning Board for consideration. One of the ordinances is the Short Term Rental Ordinance, containing changes that we need to review.

There was a question from the floor asking if and when these changes would be made public and whether or not the public would have the opportunity to comment. Once the attorney has signed off on the changes, the Selectmen will schedule a Public Hearing prior to a vote on the revised ordinances at the next Town Meeting.

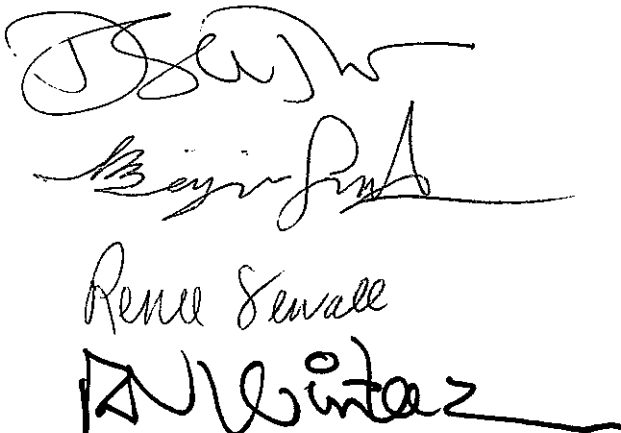
New Business:

Diana Turner informed the Board that her house is now on the market and that she would be moving, creating a vacancy on the Board that would have to be filled. Chairman said she had several people in mind that might possibly be interested.

Motion to adjourn at 6:50pm
Moved: Jackson
Second: Turner
Approved by vote: 4:0

Respectfully submitted,

R N Winters - Secretary



Rene Sewall
R N Winters