

TOWN OF CHARLEMONT
MINUTES OF THE PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING
1-19-2012

Members present: Gisela Walker, Chair, Trevor Mackie, Steve Ferguson and Marguerite Willis
7:00 PM meeting convened

Some discussion on solar farm, two calls received 1. Call about a propane tank location- directed to Fire Chief. 2. Question from the MA Dept of Agriculture about who administers the Towns APR account, because a request for funds may be coming. The BOS has control over the release of funds, PB usually give a recommendation.

Melody Welden (supported by Scott??) asked if the PB could waive the cost, delay payment or something similar on the cost of her reapplying for a SP for her ice cream/candy business?

Discussion held on what the fees cover, i.e. postage, secretaries time for compiling all necessary paperwork, that there is no excess charges, money goes into the Towns General fund not the PB account. This action would set a precedent that maybe the PB shouldn't be setting. PB understands that times are tight right now for everyone, Town included.

MOTION: To a one time exception to waive the \$75 fee because this is the second time applying for the same SP.

Motion seconded and passes 3 Yes 1 No (Trevor)

PB has been advised that there is technical assistance available from the FRCOG. The Board could possible use this help drafting a Solar or earth removal By-Law. Discussion on Procedural vs. By-Law changes when it comes to our procedure or when issues effect the whole Town (solar/wind farms, gravel banks).

The PBs "Rules and Regulations (2005)" are being updated and looking to hold a Public Meeting around March first.

Possible exploration of a Town General By-Law and the need to bring this to the attention of the BoS, all PB members agree.

Read over DRAFT copy of the PBs Annual Report for Annual Town Meeting.

There is still a need for PB members

Next PB meeting will be 2-16-2012
Filled minutes and paperwork

Adjourned at 910

Respectfully submitted by

Trevor Mackie, Clerk