

Minutes of Town of Pawlet Planning Commission
Pawlet Town Offices
Monday, June 4, 2012, 7:30 pm

Members in Attendance:

Fred Stone
Karl Eberth
Harry van Meter
John Thrasher
Gary Baierlein

Others in Attendance:

James Glick
Lenny Gibson
Jaime Lee, RRPC
Jacki Lappen, PPC Clerk
Eric Mach, Zoning Admin.

Members not in Attendance:

Myron Waite
Tom Nelson

Item 1

Review minutes

April minutes were adopted, as written, by consensus.

Item 2

Audience

James Glick asked why there were 2 different descriptions introducing subdivision regulations in the Pawlet newsletter – the one approved by the PPC and another one that seemed negative. No answers were forthcoming.

Item 3

Zoning administrator's report

Eric Mach has application for the old schoolhouse in Spanktown to add porch on rear, and setback regulations would require a variance to do this. This will be warned and Eric will discuss this with DRB Chair Fred Stone.

Item 4

Subdivision regulations – Jaime Lee, Rutland Regional Planning Commission

- Jaime passed out 19 completed surveys for PPC members to read, as well as a summary of the responses.
- She also distributed draft agenda for public forum, and she said she would be taking the lead that night. PPC members agreed to proceed with the draft.
- Jaime presented a tentative month-by-month plan for the PPC's work on subdivision regulations through April 2013. At one working session, DRB members will be included.

Jaime reassured PPC members that she will work with them to ensure their full understanding.

- She also gave out some comparison drawings of conventional versus conservation subdivision development. John Thrasher offered to work with Jaime on modifying these drawings to make them more pertinent to Pawlet in time for the public forum. PPC members decided to use an orthophoto map of an actual property. Fred Stone suggested using a conserved property to avoid raising concerns, and he offered his. Karl Eberth said he thought the public would react negatively to the clustered drawing, and maybe a different version would work better. James Glick from the audience suggested the Select Board be personally invited. Jacki Lappen will send this letter “on behalf of the PPC.”

Item 5

New business

Fred Stone brought up the subject of setting rules for conducting future meetings. He expressed concern about recent meetings, particularly the lack of organized audience participation. PPC members began a discussion about when audience members should be allowed to weigh in on PPC discussions, and how long they should be able to speak on any one subject. PPC members gave Fred strong support on controlling the meetings. Some ideas were that audience members should speak only when he asks for comment and recognizes them, and that Fred should stop any discussion he feels has gotten out of hand. Fred asked for, and received, comments from the audience on this topic. Going forward, Fred asked PPC members to speak up at meetings when they feel control has been lost. John Thrasher offered to act as parliamentarian on the rules of public meetings.

Item 6

Set agenda for next month’s meeting

The public forum is the next meeting on Monday, June 25, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacki Lappen, PPC lerk