

Select Board

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Select Board Meeting Minutes March 6, 2023

Quorum present: Select Board Members Kathleen Keresey, Chair, Andrew Krouss, Andrew Potter and Town Administrator Marie Ryan.

Others Present: Dana Bixby, Planning Board Chair

Kathleen called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and listed Select Board members present.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy Krouss, to approve the minutes from February 21, 2023.

Roll Call Vote:KathleenYesAndy KroussYesAndy PotterAbstain – not present at that meetingMinutes Approved.

Citizen Speak:

Bob Salerno informed the Board that there has been a circle of old stones uncovered next to the Shaker Mill. He would like to have this real property secured and possibly on display as part of the Town's history. Bob will get more information and report back to the Board on a process to maintain these historical markers.

Planning Board and Master Plan Update – Dana Bixby

Dana Bixby state that the Planning Board has been working on two zoning bylaws, the Short-Term Rental Bylaw and the Accessory Dwelling Bylaw. They are close to completion will require further public input. Dana will be sending a draft to the Select Board, the Building Commissioner and the Zoning Board of Appeals for input as well.

The Planning Board is working on an update to the Accessory Dwelling bylaw. The original bylaw was voted on in 1992 which requires a special permit for an in-law apartment on the property. The updated bylaw would allow a detached structure of limited size, within a limited distance from the main dwelling.

When the Planning Board has a draft of all of their changes, Dana will forward them to the Select Board for review.

The Master Plan Committee has a draft Plan, which includes an Open Spaces & Recreational Plan, thanks to the assistance of the Community Compact Grant and the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. The Master Plan will also require public input. Dana said that there is a need for a paid consultant to take the lead and give a final push to get this completed.

Dana informed the Board that the Planning Board has also been working on revising the Sub-Division Control Regulations. The document is almost complete and will need to be adopted by the Planning Board.

Affordable Housing Trust Fund – Andy Potter

Andy Potter requested that the Select Board include an article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant to adopt Chapter 44, Section 55C, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The Town may use funds from this Trust to create housing on Town owned property. The Trust Fund can provide money for building new housing, rehab existing housing and renter insurance for low-income families. The funds can build up over time and the Trustees could also work alongside the Master Plan Committee on housing issues in Town.

The Trustees are an independent board, appointed by the Select Board consisting of 5 voting members including one Select Board. The Town Administrator will serve as an exofficio member.

The Board agreed this was a good idea and Marie will include this article in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Select Board Speak:

Andy Krouss informed the Board that he attended a meeting of the Municipal Digital Equity Planning Board and Berkshire Regional Planning Commission in regards to broadband. Several towns are applying for grant money together as a joint application to assist in improving broadband locally. He will keep the Board updated.

Kathleen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Andy Krouss at 7:32 PM.

Roll Call Vote:KathleenYesAndy KroussYesAndy PotterYesMeeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie y. Ryan

Marie Y. Ryan Town Administrator