

TOWN OF PATTEN

P.O. Box 260
Patten, ME 04765

**Planning Board
MINUTES**

February 15, 2024

1. Call to Order: 4:30 PM

Attendance: Ron Blum, Dennis Brackett,, Joel Fitzpatrick, Les Hill, Barbara Webb, Scott Webb, Kristen Wittine, Gail Albert (guest)

2. Review of Agenda: No additions to the Agenda

Two Points of Order were raised by Scott:

a. The need for January reappointments to the Planning Board should have been given to the Board of Selectmen.

Ron explained that he had notified the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager late last year (note December minutes). So far they have opted not to act.

b. Scott challenged the Chair that there is no position of Vice-Chairman specified in the current Ordinance.

Ron read the entire Planning Board Ordinance and it was noted and all agreed that the Chair can appoint a position deemed necessary without other intervention. Further there is a tradition of including the office of Vice-Chair for several generations of this Planning Board.

3. Review of minutes of Jan. 18 and Feb. 1 meetings:

As minutes had not been distributed in advance of this meeting, as is the custom, Kristen read them aloud. No corrections were offered. Motion for approval made by Dennis, seconded by Scott. Passed.

Concern was raised regarding not having minutes distributed in advance nor having hard copies available for all members at the meeting. Barbara declined further timely discussion.

4. Old Business: Completion of Park Model Homes Ordinance

Copies of the most recent draft were made and distributed. Four corrections were offered. Ron made a motion to accept as corrected and Scott seconded. Passed. Barbara will send corrected final draft to the Town Office for consideration by the Board of Selectmen.

5. New Business: Discussion of Advisories from the Board of Selectmen

Ron distributed an Ordinance List reflecting priorities of the Board of Selectmen. As there are some inconsistencies from prior direction, we need to speak with the Board for further clarification.

a. Reconsideration of Land Use Ordinance: (A typo was noted in the Agenda 5b, it should read Nov. 2023) Ron noted that this ordinance appears to no longer be a priority for the Board of Selectmen. Given its prominence in the Comprehensive Plan, this will need to be clarified with the Board.

b. Updating Comprehensive Plan: After a brief discussion regarding the need to undertake a revision of the Comprehensive Plan over the next few years, Joel recalled that MaryAlice had prepared a spreadsheet of the Plan and it was agreed it would be helpful to obtain a copy. We would also want a digital copy of the Plan and need to identify who will actually do the recording. Barbara offered. Ron requested we all read the first 8 pages of the Plan in preparation for our next meeting.

c. Jay Kamm: of NMDC will be invited to an upcoming meeting to provide information on revision of the Comprehensive Plan.

d. Frequency of Meetings: Considering the task to complete Ordinances as well as revise the Comprehensive Plan, there may be a need to meet more frequently than monthly. All present acknowledged willingness to meet twice a month if called for. We will meet again in two weeks.

e. Ordinances vs. Policies: It appears the Planning Board requires an Ordinance, rather than a Policy. Town manager will clarify.

f. New Ordinances: Ron noted he was unaware of the E911 and Snow Removal ordinances that are listed as "in Process," as he never received any direction from the Board of Selectmen on these issues. Barbara offered to share information she has accumulated on the ordinances.

6. Next meeting: February 29, 2024 at 4:30 PM at the Patten Lumbermen's Museum

7. Adjourned: 6:07 PM

Respectfully Submitted,



Ronald Blum, chairman

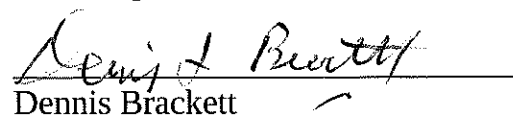
Scott Webb



Kristen Wittine



Joel Fitzpatrick, vice-chairman



Dennis Brackett



Les Hill