Arrowsic, Maine

Town Planning Board Meeting

01/06/2014

Present: Will Neilson, Chairman; Mike Kreindler, CEO; Roger Heard, Geoffrey Cartmell, Jennifer Geiger, and Matt Caras.

Chairman Neilson called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. In the absence of Secretary Brett. Geof agreed to take minutes for the meeting.

Heartfelt thanks were given to Will & Pia for hosting a wonderful holiday party for the Board members at Solo Bistro in December. It was a delicious and fun evening!

New Arrowsic Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Ordinance booklets were handed out to all.

A question was raised as to whether any changes are needed to the Ordinances, the thought being that it is time now to plan for any rewrites to be presented at the 2014 town meeting for public approval. Roger brought up the question of definitions in the Zoning booklet, such as: "Dwelling Unit" on page 13; "Dwelling" on page 46; and, "Residential Dwelling Unit" on page 49.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding different interpretations of the terms listed, the use of the word "abode", "residential unit" vs. "residential dwelling unit", and "living quarters". The question was whether a more comprehensive approach to the definitions would be preferable, or whether some type of cross-referencing of definitions would suffice to gain clarity for users. Matt agreed to review the Ordinance's use of the term "dwelling" and then report back to the Board for discussion and any steps towards resolution.

Some other Ordinance definitions which came up in discussion were: "shore frontage", "minimum lot size", and "minimum road frontage", principally concerning alternative methods making appropriate measurements for permitting purposes. It was concluded that the current town "wavy line" measurement method along the high water line between property lines for shore frontage is not necessarily better or worse than the state method of measuring (along a straight line between property lines where they intersect the high water line), depending different possible shoreline shapes, and therefore a change was not required.

Discussion strayed momentarily to include talk of George Washington surveying canals in the late 1700's, at about which time Chairman Neilson asked for a motion to adjourn. Roger so moved. Jennifer seconded. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.