

Planning Board Minutes

January 2, 2012

Present: Will Neilson, Chair; Roger Heard, Chris Brett, Geoff Cartmell, Matt Caras, Mike Kreindler, CEO, Karen Robins, Conservation Commission, Phine Ewing, Conservation Commission

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Will Neilson.

- 1) Conservation Commission request to allow removal of non-native invasive species. Several members of the Conservation Commission attended the meeting. They had indicated previously that they would like to see changes to the ordinance that would allow removal of non-native invasive species in situations where there are restrictions in the ordinance preventing removal of existing vegetation. Will mentioned that he had discussed this with Mike Morse at DEP and Mike indicated that this issue has been raised by other communities and that the state is moving to update the model ordinance to allow this. There was discussion of how long it would take the state to develop these changes and whether the town should wait. Roger raised the issue of who would verify that the invasive species were correctly identified. Phine named various town residents who are well qualified to do so. Will suggested that there should be some authorized party available to do this. Mike discussed whether the CEO or the Planning Board should be the body to give approval. He went on to discuss where in the ordinance it would apply. It was pointed out that in Resource Protection you cannot remove vegetation and in Shoreland for the first 100 feet there are restrictions on removal of low vegetation 3.2.2 b & c.

There was agreement to draft a change to the ordinance. A separate section, 3.2.8, will be added that will describe removal and replacement which will be referenced in several other sections. Roger volunteered to prepare the draft. Mike indicated that there would also be an issue with what to replant and how to verify that what was planted would survive. It was agreed to address these.

- 2) Roger handed out a draft of proposed changes to the Subdivision Plan, Section 8.4.3. He stated that the change was based on the state model ordinance. It was agreed to review this further at the next meeting.
- 3) Roger moved to adjourn at 8:28. Will seconded and all voted in favor.

Submitted by Chris Brett, Secretary

