



Planning Board Minutes – April 21, 2015

A meeting of the Town of Freetown **Planning Board** was held on **April 21, 2015** at the Freetown Town Hall 3 N Main St Assonet, MA. **Present:** Chairman Robert Raymond, Robert Jose, Mark Rogers **Absent:** Keven Desmarais, Nicolas Velozo

A. Meeting called to order at 6:10 PM

B. Proposed Zoning Articles for Town Meeting

The Board reviewed article formats and reviewed some prior Attorney General advisements regarding the sign bylaw. A decision issued in 2010 cautioned the Town with respect to putting durational limitations on political signs, and that it is unlikely to withstand a challenge based on constitutionality. The Board revised the language to remove political signage from these requirements before the proposed bylaw is submitted to the Selectmen.

The Science and Technology Overlay District bylaw that was passed at the 2014 Fall Town Meeting was not included in the Table of Contents at that time, according to the Town Clerk. Motion to put forth an article that would amend the Table of Contents to include the overlay district section: Mark Rogers; Second: Robert Jose; motion passes.

C. Subdivision Rules and Regulations

The Board reviewed the issue of sidewalks in subdivisions; currently there is no way to enforce that the driveways that are installed meet the specifications of the sidewalks. The Board reviewed language examples from other towns, and decided that the language used by Billerica regarding the sidewalks and aprons could be incorporated for Freetown. The Planning Technician will amend the rules and regulations prior to the public hearing to reflect the change.

The Board also discussed research how other towns address the sequence of events in subdivision construction, specifically when sidewalks are required to be installed.

D. Misc

The Board has received word that we have been awarded the 2015 District Local Technical Assistance grant to have SRPEDD assist us with the Site Plan Review by law. After some discussion of whether the Board should keep a public hearing component or adopt some kind of by right design review process, the Board members present generally agreed that they would like to keep the public hearing, especially for larger projects.

The Board paid the schedule of bills (engineering fees for Hawes III solar array).

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Moreau, Planning Technician

