

**Planning Board
April 6th, 2017
Bristol Town Office**

Committee Members present: Andrea Cox, Robert Cushing, Patricia Jennings, Benjamin Pendleton and Andrew Poland (Alternate)

Also present: Jessica Westhaver

Public: None

Absent: Jeff Eilenberg and Jason Lord (Alternate)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Andrea Cox.

Housekeeping –

- Discussion was had regarding designations of officials for Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. Cox opened for discussion that if anyone on the board was interested in Chairperson should would encourage this. All agreed Cox was a strong candidate for this position.
 - VOTE: Jennings made a motion to nominate Cox for Chairperson, Pendleton seconded; the board voted unanimously to designate Cox as the Chairperson for the 2017 year.
 - VOTE: Cox made a motion to nominate Eilenberg for Vice Chairperson, Poland seconded; the board voted unanimously to designate Eilenberg for Vice Chairperson for the 2017 year.
- Discussion was had regarding recommendations to the Selectmen for two alternates for the Planning Board. Poland stated interest in remaining in the alternate position. Lord, while not present at the current meeting, has stated his interest in remaining in the alternate position. Cox also discussed Mr. John Ormiston who brought his interest in an alternate position to the Town Hall staff. Cox discussed with the board where we have two individuals who currently serve these positions and remain interested, it seems appropriate to recommend the current parties.
 - VOTE: All board members agreed to recommend Poland and Lord to remain as the alternates for the Planning Board for the 2017 year.
- Minutes from March 16th, 2017
 - VOTE: Cox made a motion to approve the minutes from March 16th, 2017 meeting; Jennings seconded; the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Old Business -

- Shoreland Zoning Ordinance Amendments.
 - Westhaver shared with the Board that the SZO Amendments approved at the March 21st, 2017 Town Meeting were submitted by certified mail as well as electronically to Colin Clarke of Maine DEP. DEP has 45 days to approve the amendments submitted. Once approval is received by the Town, there are 30 days to submit the updated SZ map. Westhaver and Joseph Rose, CEO, met with Rory Craib from Maine Coast Surveying. Westhaver provided a SHAPE file to Craib in which he reviewed and believed the updates would not be difficult. He will apply these updates and provide a printed as well as electronic copies of the amended SZ map when contacted by Westhaver. It was also determined appropriate to commence using the amended SZO while waiting for DEP approval. If not approved, any permits issued during this time would need to be re-visited to apply to the old ordinance.

New Business –

- Regulation of Recreational Marijuana
 - Cox read aloud an email received from Christopher Hall, Town Administrator, which stated the following:

Responsibility for its regulation lies with municipalities, and retail sales are permitted after February 1, 2017. The Town's options include doing nothing; becoming a "dry town" for marijuana; passing an ordinance to regulate commercial growing and retail sale in the Town; or passing a moratorium for a period of up to 12 months, during which time the Town could study its regulatory options. Selectmen considered how to gauge opinion in the Town, beyond noting the November 2016 vote of the Town narrowly opposing legalization. It was noted that any moratorium or new ordinance would have to go through public hearings and a Town Meeting (annual or special).

It was moved by Lowd and seconded by Yates to refer the question to the Planning Board, with the request that within 90 days they make recommendations to the Selectmen as to options the Town should take.

- The board was also provided with a copy of the Memorandum Hall presented to the Selectmen at the same meeting (See attached Municipal Regulation of Recreational Marijuana)
- The board discussed the regulation and zoning of any type and how it connects with marijuana. Currently outside of Shoreland Zoning, Bristol does not have any zoning. It was discussed if it is appropriate to zone on this matter alone. It was also discussed at the November election the Town narrowly opposed legalization. It was questioned how many voters opposed solely based on the verbiage of the bill itself and not the legalization.
- The board decided the best action to take at this time would be to research other towns who have already either adopted an ordinance, moratorium or remain a "dry" town. In addition the board would like to connect with bordering towns to see what action they are planning on. Towns such as; South Bristol, Damariscotta, Bremen and Waldoboro. The board received notice through email that Hall, Town Administrator, would gladly conduct any research for this matter.
- This item was tabled for a future meeting with the understanding that the Planning Board have a recommendation for the Selectmen within 90 days.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25PM. The next meeting is scheduled for April 20th, 2017 and will host Bob Faunce to discuss rising tide levels.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Westhaver
Planning Board Secretary

PLANNING BOARD APPROVED: _____