



# PLANNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday June 1, 2017  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
6:30 p.m.

## Call to Order

## Pledge of Allegiance

## Introduction of Board Members

*David Andreesen; Nichole Fecteau; Paul Boisvert; David Dow; Niles Schore*

***Regular Board Member(s) Absent:***

***Alternate Members Present:***

*Sean Winston; John England*

***Alternate Member Absent:***

***Staff Members Present:***

Paul Schumacher, SMPDC; Joe Rousselle, Code Enforcement; James Bellissimo,  
Community Development & Planning Technician; Stephen Eldridge, Town Manager

## Public Comment

## Approval of Minutes

- May 18 2017

**Motion:** Niles Schore motioned to approve the minutes as presented.

**Second:** Paul Boisvert

**VOTED – 5-0 in favor**

**Motion Passed**

In favor: David Andreesen; Paul Boisvert; David Dow; Niles Schore; Nichole Fecteau

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

## Public Hearing

## **New Business**

*Chair moves retail marijuana prohibition ordinance to first order of business.*

- Ordinance Prohibiting Retail Marijuana Establishments and Retail Marijuana Social Clubs in the Town of Berwick, Maine.

Steve Eldridge said that the Board of Selectmen have been discussing the topic since recreational marijuana passed at the state level. Mr. Eldridge said that the Board of Selectmen's position is to not allow retail marijuana sales in Berwick.

Paul Boisvert asked what other towns are allowing retail marijuana. Mr. Eldridge said he has not heard of any towns who have decided how to allow it.

Niles Schore asked for support about the health and safety concerns associated with marijuana as described in the ordinance.

Nichole Fecteau stated that the Planning Board just approved a brewery, and alcohol has documented health and safety concerns. Dave Andreesen adds that Berwick sells cigarettes at Cumberland Farms.

Dave Andreesen brought up the vote where Berwick voted in favor of recreational marijuana.

Steve Eldridge said that because it is illegal federally, that if a town allows it, that town could become illegible for federal grants.

Paul Boisvert asked what towns have not allowed it, Paul Schumacher listed the towns who have voted to prohibit retail marijuana.

**Motion:** Paul Boisvert motioned that the Planning Board will host a Public Hearing on the retail marijuana ordinance. and will make recommendations for changes to the Board of Selectmen after the Public Hearing

**Second:** Niles Schore (amend to request James post ordinance to Planning website)

**VOTED – 4-1 in favor**

**Motion Passed**

In favor: David Dow; Niles Schore; Nichole Fecteau; Paul Boisvert

Opposed: David Andreesen

Abstain: None

Dave Andreesen stated that the reason he opposed was because the people of Maine and Berwick voted they do want it, and that there could be another way of doing a moratorium for retail marijuana.

- Conditional Use Application. 410 Portland Street (R-71, Lot 11)
  - Dog Day Care – Kara’s Pet Care.

Paul Schumacher said that the property was approved for a food truck and dog park and now the applicants are looking to expand with a new use, a dog day care.

Chris Webber introduced himself as the owner of 410 Portland Street.

Paul Schumacher stated that the parking required is eleven spaces and within the RC/I the board cannot waive the requirement.

Chris Webber said that the food truck would move.

Paul Schumacher stated that Chris Webber will need a permit from Maine DOT or waiver from Maine DOT.

Chris Webber stated that his property has six spaces because of the nature of the business. Paul Schumacher stated that the plan will have to show eleven spaces.

Paul Boisvert recommended that the Planning Board should do a site walk.

Niles Schore pointed out that a dog day care requires more parking spaces than child care.

Chris Webber stated that the parking at the dog park would be accessible for the dog day care.

*Site walk was scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM*

### **Informational Items**

Niles Schore clarified the deadline for the Form Based Code is August 12<sup>th</sup>, the Planning Board would have to vote by Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>, and have a public hearing held July 20<sup>th</sup>, which means the ordinance needs be to be completed by July 6<sup>th</sup>.

Joe Rousselle said that the notice for the public hearing is for seven days.

The Planning Board decided to hold a special regular meeting on July 6<sup>th</sup>.

The schedule of dates is as follows:

June 15<sup>th</sup> – Site walk for Dog Day Care. Discussion on retail marijuana.

July 6<sup>th</sup> – Public Hearings on marijuana ordinance and dog day care. Finished product due for Form Based Code to vote to have Public Hearing.

July 20<sup>th</sup> –Public hearing: Form Based Code

**Adjournment**

**Motion:** Sean Winston motioned to adjourn.

**Second:** John England

**VOTED – 5-0 in favor**

**Motion Passed**

In favor: David Andreesen; David Dow; Niles Schore; Nichole Fecteau; Paul Boisvert

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Minutes prepared by Planning Technician, James Bellissimo, for consideration at the Berwick Planning Board's June 15, 2017 meeting.

Signed as Approved by the Board:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date