



# PLANNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday June 15, 2017  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
6:30 p.m.

## Call to Order

## Pledge of Allegiance

## Introduction of Board Members

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

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

*Nichole Fecteau*

### **Alternate Members Present:**

### **Alternate Member Absent:**

*Sean Winston; John England*

### **Staff Members Present:**

*Stephen Eldridge, Town Manager*

## Public Comment

## Approval of Minutes

- June 1, 2017

*Paul said he would like to add to the 6/1/17 minutes on the motion of acceptance of retail marijuana ordinance: "Planning Board will host a Public Hearing, and make recommendations for changes to the Board of Selectmen after the Public Hearing."*

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

**Second:** Dave Andreesen

**VOTED – 4-0 in favor**

**Motion Passed**

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

## Public Hearing

### Old Business

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

Stephen Eldridge introduced the Berwick Police Department officers in attendance. Jerry Locke, the captain of the Berwick Police Department introduced himself.

Jerry Locke stated that the health concerns are that children will have more access to marijuana, and the easy access would increase drug activity locally. Mr. Locke stated that the edibles including brownies and gummy bears can lead to children overdoses because there is no way to tell the difference between a marijuana infused product and a regular candy.

Paul Boisvert raised a concern about neighboring states where Maine may be legal, but New Hampshire is not. Mr. Boisvert brought up the example of Colorado and drug gangs coming into Colorado to export to states where marijuana is illegal.

Bill Vachon introduced himself and spoke to Paul Boisvert's question about a yellowish substance related to marijuana. Mr. Vachon stated that there is no way to test at a lab the potency in edibles. Mr. Vachon stated that there is no current standard for testing for those under the influence of marijuana while driving.

Mr. Vachon stated that there are still conflicts in the Maine State Law. Dave Andreesen asked if in five years enforcement agencies would be able to regulate marijuana like alcohol. Mr. Vachon stated that the enforcement doesn't even have a handle on alcohol enforcement.

Niles Schore asked while Berwick does not yet have a DRE. Mr. Vachon and Mr. Locke both stated that a DRE requires many hours of training and is expensive. Mr. Vachon stated one officer is in training for a prerequisite for the DRE class.

Paul Boisvert clarified that the ordinance is for retail and social club establishments.

Paul Boisvert asked if there was a York County group dedicated to the issue. Stephen Eldridge confirmed there is, and that there will be a presentation in the fall for the Town Meeting Vote.

**Motion:** Paul motioned to hold a public hearing on the prohibition of retail marijuana ordinance

**Second:** Dave Andreesen

**VOTED – 4-0 in favor**

**Motion Passed**

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

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

The Planning Board discussed their site walk. Paul Boisvert stated he had a much clearer idea of where the property will go. Mr. Boisvert stated the board did not think there would be any parking issues.

The Board asked the applicant to amend the drawing of the site plan to show the 10 parking spaces.

**Motion:** Paul motioned to hold a public hearing on the Dog Day Care on July 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Second:** Niles Schore

**VOTED – 4-0 in favor**

**Motion Passed**

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

#### **Informational Items**

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion:** Niles Schore motioned to adjourn.

**Second:** Dave Andreesen

**VOTED – 4-0 in favor**

**Motion Passed**

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Minutes prepared by Planning Technician, James Bellissimo, for consideration at the Berwick Planning Board’s July 6, 2017 meeting.

Signed as Approved by the Board:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date