



**PLANNING BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
TOWN OF FOSTER
Ben Eddy Bldg., 6 South Killingly Rd., Foster, RI
Wednesday, November 7, 2007, 7:30 p.m.**

A. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 by Pat Moreau, Vice Chair.

B. Roll Call

Present were Pat Moreau, Vice Chair; Helen Hardy, Secretary; Don Moyer, and John Neale. Julia Parmentier, Mike Carpenter and Tom Mercier were excused. Also in attendance was Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner; and Tony Lachowicz, consultant.

C. Approval of Minutes

John Neale moved and Don Moyer seconded to approve the minutes of October 3, 2007 with corrections. Motion carried 4-0.

John Neale moved and Don Moyer seconded to approve the minutes of October 17, 2007 with corrections. Motions carried 4-0.

D. Correspondence

Thank you note from Tom Mercier was read.

E. Board Member's Report

1. John Neale, Land Trust liaison, reported that the Land Trust is developing management plans for their property.

F. Planner's Report

1. Ann-Marie Ignasher went to the Community Matters 2007 seminar in Burlington, Vermont. This was a week long seminar geared towards small rural communities. The planner attended seminars regarding GIS, economic development, village design concepts, and affordable housing, just to name a few.
2. She also reported she attended a CDBG Grant workshop; the workshop was designed to inform grant applicants what is expected of them throughout the procedure. Western Rhode Island Home Repair was recognized at the workshop for its efforts to replace substandard mobile homes.
3. Ann-Marie made contact with officers from the RI EDC, and she spoke to them regarding such things as the Hopkins Mills and Route 6 bridges – how the loss of those bridges could and would affect the economics of the whole state of Rhode Island.
4. Ann-Marie also made contact with Noreen Shawcross from RI Housing regarding affordable housing. Ann-Marie hopes to meet with Ms. Shawcross and an officer from Statewide Planning to discuss what the Town of Foster can do regarding the state's affordable housing mandates.
5. Keep Space Initiative update – Mr. Joseph Garlick, the Executive Director of Neighbor Works (f/k/a Woonsocket Neighborhood Development Corps.) is willing to work with us regarding a rural design concept for affordable housing, and is willing to write the grant application for the Keep Space Initiative – due November 16, 2007.

G. Administrative Subdivisions

None.

H. Minor Subdivisions

None.

I. Major Subdivisions

None.

J. Non-Commercial Site Review

None.

K. Old Business

Tony Lachowicz; continued the review of conservation development zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations. Mr. Lachowicz mentioned he had spoken to Sam Shamoon (the contractor writing the affordable housing regulations) and they determined there should be a meeting between Mr. Lachowicz, Mr. Shamoon, and our Town Planner, to make sure that the affordable housing regulations and the conservation development regulations do not conflict with either our Comprehensive Plan or each other. Once the meeting with the Town Planner takes place, the next step would be to have a combined meeting with the Affordable Housing Board and the Planning Board, together, to present and discuss the new ordinances together.

M. New Business

None

N. Future Agenda Items

- November 17th workshop for Rt. 6 rezoning
- November 28th meeting, workshop on Affordable Housing / Conservation Development (Planning Only)
- December 5th meeting, regular business meeting, hearings.
- January 2nd workshop
- January 16th, capital budget meeting.

M. Adjournment

John Neale moved to adjourn at 9:40. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Hardy
Secretary