



Plympton Bylaw Review Committee

Minutes for December 5th, 2019

6:30 PM, Large Meeting Room

The meeting, having been duly posted with an agenda, was opened by Chair, Alan Wheelock at 6:39 PM.

Committee Members Present: Ted Taranto, Ken Thompson, Alan Wheelock, Ann Sobolewski, Dominique Sampson, Kim Russo

Regrets: Amy Cronin, Dave Alberti, Jean Cohen

Guests: None

- 1. Minutes Approval.** The minutes for November 21st, 2019 submitted by Alan Wheelock were unanimously approved.
- 2. Discussion regarding current status of the General Code Project.** Alan informed committee members that the deadlines for deliverables back to General Code – December 13th – would be met. He has been working with the Town Administrator and Town Clerk to complete the last few items. Meeting the December 13th deadline means that General Code will have time to prepare a complete digital version of Plympton's Zoning By-laws document for consideration by May 2020 Town Meeting.
- 3. Further discussion of the current state of enforcement of zoning laws and regulations in Plympton.** Members continued their discussion of the Town's current approach to enforcing by-laws, given that the BLRC has strengthened and clarified both the Enforcement section of the regulations and the entire Table of Uses. Alan agreed to draft a letter to the Board of Selectmen that discusses this concern and present it to committee members prior to sending it out. It was also agreed that the BLRC would like to invite both the selectmen and the Zoning Enforcement Officer to an upcoming meeting to discuss this issue.
- 4. Update from Ken Thompson.** Member Ken Thompson reported on his efforts to research the idea of creating better descriptions of the key Plympton boards and committees and adding those to our By-laws. A current example of this that Ken has cited is the **"Organization, Powers and Duties of the Plympton Planning Board"** in the current By-law document. (Pages M11 and 12 of the 2019 version). After some discussion, Ann noted that

the state governs what can and cannot be put into a local municipality's by-law as to detailed descriptions of boards and their powers, and that we might not be able to make such additions to our By-law document. Just to confirm this, it was agreed that Ken and Alan will look at several area towns to see how they are handling this issue. Alan will look at Westport and Duxbury, Ken will look at Halifax and Norwell.

Next Meeting: The next scheduled meeting of the Committee will be Thursday, January 9th. Due to the holidays, the Committee elected to not meet on December 19th, and to push back what would have been the January 2nd meeting to the 9th, and also meet the following Thursday, January 16th. Meetings are typically held every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Alan Wheelock at 7:52 pm.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Alan Wheelock.