



Plympton Bylaw Review Committee

Minutes for May 5, 2022
Deborah Sampson Meeting Room

The meeting, having been duly posted with an agenda, was opened by Chair, Alan Wheelock at 6:32 PM.

Present: Alan Wheelock, Dave Alberti, Amy Cronin, Kevin Rafferty, Ann Sobolweski and Arthur Kinsman

Regrets: Jean Cohen

1. **Minutes.** The April 21st minutes, submitted by Amy Cronin were approved as amended.
2. **Groundwater Protection Overlay District Bylaw.** Rehoboth is having the overlay district cover the entire town in their new bylaw to be considered soon. Their existing bylaw would be used as a model. We need to make sure that existing rules aren't in conflict or redundant with what we have in place. There is much analytical work to be done. The sections of interest include, but aren't limited to,

Chapter 290 Wetlands Protection,
Chapter 370 Wetlands Regulations,
Chapter 300-3.3 Floodplain and Watershed Protection District,
300-3.5 Groundwater Protection,
300-8.3 Groundwater Protection Districts (GPD), and
Chapter 141 Earth Removal Bylaw

It was discussed that the first area of review should be 300-8.3 Groundwater Protection Districts since it covers the topic of the Rehoboth bylaw. It was also mentioned that there is a map that shows the existing districts that was based on scientific facts in the 1990's. Who did this work, and is it still valid. We will first get the groundwater district map, and study it; we believe there are 3 sensitive areas in town to have special protection. Then split out the 3 areas and do an analysis of that corresponding text in 300-8.3 and report back. There was discussion that the existing bylaw isn't being enforced, however updating the bylaw will help in the future to protect our groundwater. It would be good to correspond with other committees to put our heads together.

3. Parking Lot Items:

- Sprinklering houses greater than 3000 ft²; and parking regulations.
- Do setbacks apply to tennis courts, swimming pools – do they count as a structure?
- There are some zoning terminology changes (like light manufacturing versus light industrial which is supposed to be the same thing).

- Animal Control Officer. We have an agreement with the Town of Carver that we share their Animal Control Officer. There is no entity that will inspect a property when a kennel is being proposed. It was questioned if the barn inspector (Brian Kling) could also inspect for kennels; he inspects 100+ pigs, cows, chicken coops, all animals, etc. It was discussed that Brian Kling noted that he didn't have the proper tools to perform the job (canine catching tools, tranquilizer gun and gun for injured deer, etc.). A job position with tools provided is needed. It's possible a student in the ag program or 4H could be a future candidate. This could be a project to pass on to the Town Administrator, Liz.
- Solid Waste and Illegal Dumping Bylaw
- 300-6.3 Trailers/mobile homes
- Groundwater Protection Overlay District Bylaw (Alan and Dominique). After studying the current Floodplain and Watershed Protection District, Section 300-8.1 – highlighted by Ann Sobolewski at the February 17th BLRC meeting – Alan concluded that, before the Town can adopt the Rehoboth Groundwater protection language, it will be necessary to reconcile the existing Plympton regulations against the Rehoboth by-law. The amount of overlap - or even potential conflicts – has to be reviewed carefully before bringing this issue to the voters.
- Setback definitions in §300-5.1 through 300-5-7 (Amy)
- Bylaw to Promote Clear Marking of Driveways.
- Kennels
- Key Lock Boxes
- 300-7.1 General provisions, Section (A)(1) change “maximum” to “minimum”?
- Clarify the varying terms “access area” and “roadway” in Articles 34 and 35.
- 300-8.3(E)3 – it was questioned if the numbers should be I, II and III (not just II). This is likely an error as it was believed to be in the prior bylaws correctly.

Next Meetings: There will be no meeting on May 19th since the Town Meeting is May 18th. The next scheduled meeting is June 2nd. The Committee's regular meeting schedule is the first and third Thursday of each month, starting at 6:30 PM. There will be no meetings for the months of July and August.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Chair, Alan Wheelock at 7:30 pm. These minutes are respectfully submitted by Amy Cronin.