



Plympton Bylaw Review Committee

Minutes for March 3, 2022

Deborah Sampson Meeting Room or by Zoom at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484755809?pwd=SnlFMFFKRu9kaFRqL2d5dkFgeFdadz09>

The meeting, having been duly posted with an agenda, was opened by Chair, Alan Wheelock at 6:37 PM.

Present: Alan Wheelock, Dave Alberti, Kevin Rafferty, Ann Sobolweski, Dominique Sampson

Regrets: Amy Cronin, Jean Cohen

Guests: Art Kinsman

1. **Minutes.** The February 17th minutes, submitted by Amy Cronin, were approved as written.
2. **Candidate for Membership on the BLRC.** Alan introduced Art Kinsman, resident of Crescent Street, who was attending the meeting. Selectman John Traynor had recommended Art as a candidate to fill the open seat on the Committee, and Art was attending BLRC to get a sense for the Committee and its work. At the close of the meeting, Art informed Alan that he'd definitely like to become a member. Alan subsequently submitted his name for approval to the Town Administrator and the BOS.
3. **Informational Newspaper Article.** Alan's article regarding the Plympton Demolition Delay By-law was published by the Plympton/Halifax/Kingston Express. A link to the article was also placed by Amy in the Plympton Helping Plympton Facebook page. On February 26, Alan received a supportive e-mail from Plympton resident Jane Schulz offering kudos for this article, which Alan shared with the Committee on February 27th.
4. **Groundwater Protection Bylaw (Alan and Dominique).** Alan reported that it will not be possible to prepare a warrant article on this issue in time for May Town Meeting. 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. Alan noted that he had had a detailed discussion with Linda Leddy, Chairperson of the Open Space Committee and a partner in the effort to strengthen the Town's ground water protection regulations, and that Linda had agreed that more research needs to be done before this is ready to be fashioned into a warrant article. Alan said that he had contacted Bill Napolitano, of SRPEDD (Southeastern Planning and Economic Development District), who has been an advisor on this effort, and apprised him of where things stand. This by-law is of critical importance to the community, and Alan stated that the work will continue.

5. **Dog Kennels, Chapter 132 (Ann and Jean).** Ann and Jean met on February 28th and worked on the terminology that will be needed to correct the discrepancies between the General By-laws and Zoning By-laws. They plan to use the word “kennel” while still making it clear that Plympton does not allow commercial dog kennels. The warrant article will focus on cleaning up the definitions. The Town Administrator and the Town Clerk will be consulted prior to finalization of the warrant article.
6. **Retreat lots and retreat lots §300-5.8 (Kevin).** This work has been completed and Ann is developing the warrant article language. Kevin found language in 300-5.0 that may be in conflict with the Accessory Dwelling Unit By-law.
7. **Bylaw to Promote Clear Marking of Driveways.** It was agreed that Kevin will invite the Plympton Fire Department to a future meeting, as they have an interest in this issue.
8. **Railroad area zoning.** Dave showed the Committee his proposed warrant article language that addresses this issue. He also showed the Committee a map that he has developed that illustrates the proposed change. It was recommended that he consult with the Town Administrator on tightening the language. The Planning Board (PB) will sponsor this. PB will hold a public hearing on this; residents impacted will receive a mailing on this.
9. **Setback definitions in §300-5.1 through 300-5-7 (Amy).** No new work.
10. **Warrant Articles. Warrant articles that we will be submitting include the following:**
 - BOH penalty structure, a new (D) in Chapter 1, General Provisions, Article II;
 - General Bylaw changes to Section 135 Dogs and Zoning Bylaw Table of Uses;
 - Multiple warrant articles to correct scribes/technical errors and miscellaneous;
 - A retreatment lot enhancement warrant article;
 - Railroad zoning map;
 - Retreat lots
 - Fixing the language in 300 5.0

11. 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 (Kim)

Next Meetings: The next scheduled meetings are Thursday, March 17th, April 7th and April 21st. The Committee's regular meeting schedule is the first and third Thursday of each month, starting at 6:30 PM.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Chair, Alan Wheelock at 8 pm. These minutes are respectfully submitted by Alan Wheelock.