



Plympton Bylaw Review Committee

Minutes for March 17, 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 6:35 PM.

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

Regrets: Jean Cohen and Dominique Sampson

Guest: Jared Anderson

1. **Minutes.** The March 3rd minutes, submitted by Alan Wheelock, were approved as amended.
2. **Zoning Enforcement Officer Compensation.** The existing stipend for the ZEO is \$5000 in an \$11M budget, and is thought to be inadequate. Alan and Kevin drafted a letter to the BOS providing data on the findings on the compensation and how the role is structured in other towns. The compensation is around \$30-\$40/hour and Plympton has only budgeted about 3 hours per week for enforcement. It was also found that the position is usually combined with the Building Inspector.
3. **Informational Sheets.** The Town Clerk doesn't have our sheets, and the Building Department has them online and on the Building Department website. She also put them in the informational areas in the Department for visitors to view.
4. **Warrant Article Deadline.** The deadline is March 28th for all warrant articles.
5. **Dog Kennels, Chapter 132 (Ann and Jean).** Ann typed up the warrant article and sent to Dave for comment. There is a definition now for "kennel" and in the Dog Kennel section it takes out the different definitions and just refers back to the statute. Currently the only kennel allowed is for those who own the dogs. In the general bylaw, it describes what you need to do to get a kennel license and annual inspections (initial licensing and renewal licensing), etc. Before, based on the type of kennel, there were different fees; the types that are not allowed in town have been deleted. For a "hobby kennel" (no longer called that), the fee was raised from \$60 to \$100 to be comparable to other towns. With the changes proposed, the doggy daycare use is allowed, and a kennel license is required. It was questioned if we wanted a different fee for animal daycare and grooming in the zoning bylaw.
6. **Railroad area zoning.** Dave finalized the warrant article. There are 99 abutters to these properties.
7. **Retreat lots and retreat lots §300-5.8 (Kevin).** Changes were made to the warrant article.
8. **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 as follows:
 - Board of Health violations. All regulations enacted by the Board of Health may be enforced through non-criminal disposition by Board of Health members or its designee(s). Violations shall be subject to a written warning for the first offense, and shall be subject to payment of the following fines:
 - \$50.00 for 2nd offense
 - \$75.00 for 3rd offense
 - \$100.00 for 4th and all subsequent offenses
- 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

9. 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 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. It was agreed that Kevin will invite the Plympton Fire Department to a future meeting, as they have an interest in this issue.

Next Meetings: The next scheduled meetings are Thursday, 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 7:50 pm. These minutes are respectfully submitted by Amy Cronin.