



## Plympton Bylaw Review Committee

Minutes for August 3, 2017  
6:30 PM, Small Meeting Room

The meeting, having been duly posted with an agenda, was opened by Chair, Allan Wheelock at 6:30 PM.

**Committee Members Present:** Dave Alberti, Amy Cronin, Linda Leddy, Ted Taranto, Ann Sobolewski, Ken Thompson and Alan Wheelock

**Regrets:** Jean Cohen and Kimberly Russo

**Guests:** Mark Russo, John Traynor, Christine Joy

- 1. Minutes Approval.** The minutes from the 07-20-17 were accepted with amendments.
- 2. Building Permit.** Ted Taranto spoke with Tom Millias and Kathy Wright in the Building Department to gather information about the building permit process. Ted got a “routing” sheet that Kathy uses to facilitate her work. This was done to determine if there should be anything in the enforcement section of the Bylaw to describe this process. Some towns describe what is needed (like a checklist). Alan will contact Tom Millias to see if he can attend a Bylaw Review meeting, which will provide one part of the larger issue. Mark Russo recommended that we ask Town Legal.
- 3. Selectman’s Outreach.** Amy Cronin reported that during this week’s Selectman’s meeting, it was requested that the Bylaw Review Committee consider adding text that if real estate or other taxes are due, a permit shall not be issued. A note was put in the Municipal Bylaw, Article XVI, page M9 to consider this issue. That article discusses denying licenses or permits, but not refusing to accept them.
- 4. Marijuana Grow Regulations.** Sharon Housley expressed to the Alan Wheelock and Amy Cronin that she is interested in the Bylaw Review Committee considering the MA State Law regarding the topic.
- 5. Draft Warrant Articles.** It was discussed that manageable “chunks” of the Bylaws will be made into warrant articles, complete with department review by January 1, 2018.
- 6. Board of Selectmen Support.** The Board of Selectman met with the Bylaw Review Committee at 7:30 pm to determine how they can give the Committee support. The Chair, Alan Wheelock expressed thanks to the Selectmen for creating the Committee. He continued to discuss the priorities: enforcement, allowed uses and administration (in no particular order). It was requested by the Committee that buy-in from the affected departments will be needed, and that’s an area where the BOS could be of assistance. The Committee is providing what they believe is the “ideal” (reviewing other town’s bylaws) without a financial judgement; the Committee wants the BOS and the citizens to make those decisions. The Bylaws are meant to be informative (clarifying processes, deadlines and rules), yet some may wish for “flexibility”; there could be concerns about the formality of the Bylaws. Information before the Town

Meeting will be disseminated. Ken Thompson presented information on the calendar work flow to ensure timely submissions of the warrant articles, and sessions to educate the public. It was confirmed by the BOS that any zoning bylaws must go through the Planning Board hearings. There were questions about legal review – at what point would they like to see our ideas? It was suggested that a basic legal overview with concepts (a batch at a time), then work with departments then the legal “polishing”. It was discussed that the BOS will consider a pool of funds for legal review. It was noted that it’s good to have an aggressive January 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, but practically recognizing the deadline is in March. Plympton Legal Counsel will be invited to come to the next Bylaw Review Committee meeting. The K&P land use attorney will potentially attend the following meeting. The *Table of Uses* will be a big project that will need legal support since its very sparse and potentially outdated.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday 08/17/17 at 6:30 pm

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by Alan Wheelock at 8:35 pm.

The minutes are respectfully submitted by Amy Cronin.