

GROTON PLANNING BOARD  
January 25, 2012

Meeting convened at 7:05 p.m.

Present: Deb Johnson, Jenny Burnett, Miles Sinclair (Select board liaison), Dave LaBar, Russ Carruth, Celine Richer, Steve (Slim) Spafford (Chair), Sharon Nelson (Alternate and Clerk)

Minutes of Dec. meeting read and approved by those who had attended. Miles, Celine and Jenny abstained as they had been unable to attend the Dec. meeting.

New Business

Chair informed us of town's need to update its Hazard Mitigation Plan. Planning Board has small part to play in this. Chair agreed to attend meetings. Town has hired a former employee of No. Country Council to head this endeavor.

Chair informed us that AT &T will be coming before us for a Site Plan Review in order to put their antennas on the Tenney Mt. installation.

Old Business

First we tackled the completion of Subdivision Regulations, making small changes in spelling, punctuation and wording. We agreed to the addition of a paragraph to section 3.9N: Any work that requires impacts (fill, dredge, excavation, etc.) on wetlands or other jurisdictional areas (stream banks, undisturbed tidal buffer zones, etc.) requires coordination with the Department of Environmental Services Water Division to ensure that all applicable rules and regulations are adhered to. We were also in agreement on adding to Section II. Definitions: Low Impact Development (LID) is a stormwater management approach focused on controlling stormwater by using small, decentralized ecological methods to treat stormwater close to the source. Then we added a sentence between the two sentences already present in Section 3.5C: Low Impact Development practices shall be used. All agreed that our Subdivision Regs were ready for public viewing.

Next we moved through our Site Plan Review Regulations, correcting spelling, wording, punctuation and formatting. On p.10, Section K.2.c we changed the word 'only' to 'preferred'. On p.12, Section XIV, we corrected the mention of Section IV to V and deleted the last phrase 'of the Groton Subdivision Regulations'. Lastly, Chair's motion to add a Signage section to Site Plan Review was met with approval by all but Miles and Jenny. They objected to only allowing a sign to be illuminated during hours of business operation. So a Signage regulation was added to Section X. General Standards:

L. Signage – All approved signs shall be constructed of permanent materials, permanently attached to the ground or a structure and shall be maintained. One(1) sign of up to twenty(20) square feet in area shall be allowed for each conforming, principal use. The sign may be a freestanding sign or a building sign provided that there is no more than one(1) freestanding sign per lot. Signs may only be illuminated by a shielded external light source. The sign may only be illuminated during those hours that such a permitted

use is open or in operation. No sign will be permitted to physically or visually move, rotate or create an illusion of movement, or have parts or surfacers that physically or visually move, rotate or create the illusion of movement, or emit audible sound or noise. It was agreed that now these Site Plan Review Regulations were ready for public viewing.

Celine agreed to make all additions and corrections to both documents and send them to our Administrative Assistant to put on Groton Web site. Citizens will have a month to view them. Hearings on both Site Plan Review Regulations and Subdivision Regulations will be held at our next meeting, February 29, 2012, 7 pm.

Unanimous approval was given to adjournment at 9:40 pm. Gratitude was extended to Celine for bringing her laptop to many meetings to facilitate the updating of both sets of regulations.

Sharon Nelson  
Clerk