

**Shaftsbury
Planning Commission
Coe Hall at Buck Hill Road
August 23, 2011**

Members Present: Chris Williams (Chair), Bill Pennebaker, Norm Gronning

Members Absent: David Spurr

Others Present: Andy Schoerke, Kathleen Geneslaw, Ron Schoof, Robert Geneslaw, Sue Balutis, William Obenauer. Others as listed on attendance sheet on file in town clerk's office.

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Chris Williams called this meeting of the Planning Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **Approval of minutes of June 29, 2011 and July 26, 2011:**
Bill made a motion to approve the Minutes of June 29, 2011 and Norm seconded. There was no discussion. All in favor, 3-0-0. The Minutes of July 29, 2011 were not acted on as there was not a quorum of those present on that date.

3. **Commercial composting facilities - need for bylaw and/or moratorium?**
Chris opened this item by saying that in his discussion with Kathy Jameson he learned that blanket prohibition of a composting facility cannot be done and cited 24 VSA Section 4413 (Limitation on Municipal Bylaws). The members of the Planning Commission present are in favor of a moratorium on composting facilities. Comments from the public were received from the following individuals: Andy Schoerke, Kathleen Geneslaw, Ron Schoof, Robert Geneslaw, Sue Balutis and William Obenauer. The consensus was that a composting facility is an industrial operation and should only be allowed in locations zoned industrial. A statement from Shaftsbury Residents for Environmentally Responsible Development (SRERD) was read. A moratorium was supported.
A short discussion between Planning Commission members was held concerning a possible conflict of interest. Norm Gronning's wife, Mary, is listed as an interested party on the SRERD statement. Norm gave recusal much thought and decided to vote on the below motion.

Bill made a motion that the Planning Commission suggest to the Shaftsbury Select Board that a moratorium of at least three months, or until the State of Vermont finalizes its new guidelines on commercial composting facilities plus one month, be considered for adoption. The motion was approved 3-0-0.

4. Discussion with Jennifer Viereck about job of Zoning Administrator:

Chris thanked Jennifer for taking on the position and emphasized the importance of keeping accurate files. Chris said that the Planning Commission was here to support her.

5. Historic District bylaw:

Chris asked Norm to work on an historic district bylaw to include E911 addresses of historic properties.

6. Discussion of rezoning Phil & Ken Harrington gravel pit property, Behan Road:

Discussion of the sixteen acre property covered whether the present zoning designation of Residential could or should be changed to Industrial.

7. Adjourn:

Bill made a motion to adjourn at 9:15 P.M. and Norm seconded. The motion passed 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Whitney