

Shaftsbury Planning Commission
Shaftsbury Town Hall
61 Buck Hill Road

November 25, 2014
DRAFT

Members Present: Chris Williams (Chair), William Pennebaker, Abigail Beck, David Spurr

Others Present: Shelly Stiles, ZA

1. Call to Order 7:10 pm
2. Review and Correction of Minutes 9/23/14. "The concept a more appealing one" changed to "concept more appealing." Pennebaker moved to approve, seconded by Spurr. Approved 4-0. Review and correction of minutes 11/11/14. "the" in last line deleted. Pennebaker moved to approve, seconded by Spurr. Approved 3-0 with 1 abstention.
3. Review language of approved by-laws for reissue
Bill will put the final edited document together for board review, including industrial composting, adaptive re-use of motel properties, and flood hazard section. Subdivision, sign and town highway sections will be appended. Upon completion, ZA will print out 20± double-sided copies for distribution. Note that this document will be changed following Town Meeting.
4. Fluvial erosion bylaw: Pennebaker reported that Jim Henderson at BCRC hasn't wrapped his head around it, but that State is moving quickly. Model bylaws are on the ANR website, as is a new "river corridor" map ("river corridor" is new phrase for "fluvial erosion hazard zone.") ZA will find out from BCRC what action Shaftsbury needs to take to get a grade of "A" (need to learn what program this grade refers to.)
5. Forestry: Williams will invite county forester Kyle Mason to an upcoming meeting to discuss with the PC what language it could recommend to protect the town from "clear cuts" or future large scale biomass harvests. (Forestry activities generally can't be regulated by the Towns, only by the State.) ZA said BCRC's Forest Stewardship mapping effort could probably provide them with data as to number, size, location, and protected status of the community's forested parcels. The PC agreed that it's not so much that overharvesting is an issue now (though there has been clearing for land speculation), but rather that it could become an issue. Any regulation of forestry likely to be a hard sell to public.
6. Other business: sign ordinance
Williams asked what the members thought about suggesting a revision to the sign ordinance to "prohibit self-illuminated signs." He said LED is the wave of the future, and LED signs are going to be much cheaper and therefore ubiquitous compared to neon. Chris will craft a draft revision for review.
7. Motion to adjourn by Pennebaker, seconded by Beck. Adjourned by acclamation at 8:20 pm.