

Shaftsbury Planning Commission  
Shaftsbury Town Hall  
61 Buck Hill Road

January 13, 2015  
DRAFT

Members Present: David Spurr (Vice-Chair), William Pennebaker, Abigail Beck

Absent: Chris Williams

Others Present: Shelly Stiles, ZA

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.
2. Review of December 9 minutes was tabled as Spurr was not present for that meeting. It appears Spurr is having trouble receiving group emails from the ZA; in future she will send emails to him singly as well.
3. Review language of approved by-laws for reissue was combined with agenda item 6, below.
4. Fluvial erosion bylaw  
Pennebaker shared an email from Ned Swanberg at VT DEC reporting that ANR “expects to update model bylaw language” (in this case, re so-called model 4) in the next few months. Pennebaker suggested and all concurred that the issue should be tabled until that language is available. Pennebaker will notify Swanberg that the PC will be in touch in April or so.
5. Forestry  
Beck said as far as she knew we hadn’t heard from the county forester, Kyle Mason, who she is relying on to explain what kind of steps are available to Towns to protect their forestry resources, especially in the context of UVA. She had found a copy of the Accepted Management Practices and wondered if that is the document the PC should be referring to for guidance. She will ask Chris Williams if it is the document he had in mind, or whether it is another.
6. Bylaw language. The group discussed just what “zoning map” is being referred to in the bylaw and when it was adopted. They viewed issues with the paper maps that make it impossible, using just the maps, to discern what the underlying district is in some overlay zones. In future, the ZA will mark-up the maps in pencil as she becomes familiar with the boundaries through other means.

At that point, Select Board Chair Tim Scoggins joined the meeting to ask for PC support for the Town’s grant application to interpret a water works on and near Rollins Rd. After discussion, Pennebaker moved, Beck seconded to support the project. Chris Williams had already voted “yes” by email. The motion passed 4-0 (including Mr. Williams’s off-site vote.) Vice-chair Spurr signed for the PC.

Mr. Scoggins updated the PC on various town garage options, including a land swap with neighbor Cross, using a portion of the Bernstein parking lot, and purchasing one or more lots at the entrance to the landfill.

The bylaw discussion was tabled to a future meeting. Pennebaker and the ZA will work together to see whether any of the suggestions made by the ZA are “substantial” changes.

7. Discussion of sign ordinance  
The Commission discussed a possible change to the sign ordinance regarding illuminated signs. Perhaps backlighting could be limited to a percentage of the sign surface area, and perhaps

color could be permitted according to a range of temperatures. The discussion was tabled to the next meeting.

8. Other business

It was agreed that if Pennebaker and the ZA can make sense of her suggested revisions to the bylaws by then, the next meeting will be held January 27. The ZA will let commission members know by January 22. Otherwise the next meeting will be held February 10.

9. Motion to adjourn by Beck, seconded by Pennebaker. Adjourned by acclamation at 8:20 pm.

Minutes prepared by ZA Stiles.