

August 31, 2011

Special Meeting

5:30 p.m. Town Pavilion

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Bedini, Mr. Bohan, Mrs. Hill, Mr. LaMunier, Mr. Wadellon

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Ms. Cheney, Mr. Papsin

ALTERNATE ABSENT: Mr. Martino

STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Ajello, Mrs. J. Hill

Mr. Bedini called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., seated the five regular members, and noted it had been called to discuss administrative business. Most of the discussion centered on the question, What can we do better? The suggestions included:

1. Try to keep the meeting on track so that it can be adjourned by 10:00-10:15 p.m. after which, many commissioners find it difficult to concentrate.
2. Be careful not to engineer plans for applicants.
3. Review staff reports more seriously.
4. Search for a diversity of legal advice.
5. Have legal counsel attend more meetings, especially public hearings.

In an attempt to keep meetings to the 10:00 p.m. limit, a new policy was established. New applications that are not submitted by 5:00 p.m. the Friday prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting will not be discussed at that meeting, although the time limits set per the state statutes will begin. This will provide staff adequate time to review applications prior to the meeting and will be consistently applied to all applicants. The one exception will be for urgent matters such as emergency repairs and situations that impact the public health, safety, and welfare.

It was the consensus that application fees would not be required for applications for Exemptions. This will be included in the Regulations the next time they are revised.

In general, it was agreed that the Commission's counsel and consultants should attend public hearings. But regarding the upcoming public hearing for Wykeham Rise, LLC. on September 8, it was decided to have a brief special meeting that evening after the hearing has been either closed or continued to make a determination regarding whether to request the Commission's legal counsel attend the next session of the hearing at which Wykeham's request would be considered or the next meeting when the deliberation would be conducted. It was also agreed that counsel should attend when there is an application having an intervenor.

Other questions/issues that came up included the following matters, which will be researched and then discussed further.

1. Is the Commission required to pass a motion to schedule a public hearing?
2. If a commissioner abstains from a vote, must he give a reason for the record?
3. Should abstentions be avoided in favor of recusals?
4. Should violations be numbered?
5. Can applicants' engineers be asked either to provide less information on each map or larger maps so that it is easier to read details.
6. What specifically is the recent ruling regarding participation of alternates and how should the IWC apply it when conducting its business?

MOTION:

To adjourn the meeting. By Mrs. Hill.

Mr. Bedini adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

FILED SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Respectfully submitted,

Janet M. Hill

Land Use Administrator