

Minutes of Meeting – July 14, 2021; meeting called to order at 7:00pm. Present: Ed Lane; Marybeth Mitts; Dave Roche; Neal Maxymillian; Warren Archey.

DR stated that Marybeth Mitts is the new chairman, and the Board should now vote a new clerk. MOTION by DR, seconded by EL to appoint Neal Maxymillian as clerk of the board. 5/0 vote.

MM explained that there are three individuals on the agenda under General Business, and that they will be the only individuals allowed to speak at that time. Anyone else who would like to speak has two minutes under Citizen's Open Forum. She went on to state that the Town has not received an application from Forest Wilde regarding the marijuana proposal. The Town has notified them that our ZBA has jurisdiction over this project. With regard to the cell tower at the Curtis, she stated that there is talk of a lease between Evolution Site Services, LLC and the Housing Authority, and that the Town is not a party to this. She went on to state that the Planning Board is working on bylaw language for a small wireless facilities siting.

MOTION by NM, seconded by DR to approve the Minutes of June 30. 4/0 vote with WA abstaining.

Citizens Open Forum: Susan May, 40 Old Stockbridge Road stated that the majority of the Housing Authority residents are against a cell tower on the building, and asked about setbacks to residents for antennas/towers. Lucy Kennedy, 35 Tucker Street, wanted to make sure that there was transparency and wondered what the objective was. Courtney Gilardi, 980 East Street and 17Alma Street, Pittsfield stated that fourteen people have been sickened in Pittsfield so she had to move to Lenox. She asked that you not condemn the Curtis residents to the same fate. Her daughter Amelia Gilardi spoke about the environmental illnesses being preventable.

Consent Agenda: A HOLD was placed on the sandwich board sign application and the sign request. MOTION by NM, seconded by DR to approve a one-day W&M license request to Heather Barbieri for an event at Ventfort Hall 7/31 from 5-9pm; appoint Michael Nancollas to the Cable Advisory Board. 5/0 vote. The Board briefly discussed the request from Shots Café for a sandwich board sign. There was a consensus that the area is too congested and that safety is a concern. They suggested that she come back to the Board with another option. MOTION by EL, seconded by DR to approve a sandwich board sign to Shots Café. 5/0 vote to deny. The Board then briefly discussed a request to place a sign advertising an arts event in Pittsfield in the downtown area. They agreed that it seemed like there may be a better location than in the downtown area. MOTION by EL, seconded by DR to approve a temporary sign to Bruce Shickmanter, Guild of Berkshire Artists through July 25. 5/0 vote to deny.

Deb Bronston-Culp requested to meet with the Board regarding the Forest Wilde marijuana proposal at the Cork 'N Hearth building. Unfortunately, she could not attend the meeting, so Ruth Bronston and Jeanmarie Stein came in her place. Ruth Bronston, 64 Bramble Lane, spoke about traffic and pedestrian safety, and questioned how Lenox was going to proceed. The Board stated that the Town has not received an application to our ZBA, and that we have sent emails to the group pursuing this location informing them that it is in violation of our zoning bylaws. Should they continue with this project, ignoring our bylaws, a cease and desist order would be issued. Ms. Bronston stated that if there is anything that she can do to help the Town with this issue, to please contact her.

Diane Sheldon requested to meet with the Board to discuss a proposed cell tower to be located on the Curtis building. MM stated that there is no application pending currently before the Town or State. Ms. Sheldon suggested that the Town consider not allowing cell towers in residential areas.

John McNinch, 351 East Street, came before the Board to discuss proposed artwork and signage for Chamber events. At issue are the multiple signs located in the Chamber office windows. MM stated that she recognizes their frustration, and that we need to find a way to work this out. DR stated that the Building Inspector had made some suggestions, and while he wants to support her, we need to support the Chamber as well. NM stated that any signage needs to be removed promptly after the event is over. It was suggested that this matter be taken off of the Building Inspector's plate and perhaps have a selectman or the TM deal with it. The Board could approve 2-week temporary sign requests, but EL stated that the large green signs in the windows are not temporary. There are two different types of signs to be dealt with. MOTION by NM, seconded by DR to approve the art work and signage requests for special events from the Chamber, with TM review. 5/0 vote.

New Business/Liaison Reports: EL stated that, unfortunately, the dedication of the Lagarce gazebo was cancelled again. NM stated that the Permanent Building Committee will meet tomorrow at 2pm to give the TM authority to produce with the RFQ, etc. to move the projects forward. MM stated that the Affordable Housing Trust purchased two homes that they hope to sell to eligible individuals by the end of the year; the library book sale will be held on August 27 and 28.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Minutes Taken By: \_\_\_\_\_ Minutes Accepted By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Ellen Deming Clerk  
Director of Administrative Services Board of Selectmen