

Tinmouth Planning Commission
January 18, 2018
Minutes

Members present: Bob Lloyd, Kevin Ruane, Michael Fallar, Kim Harbaugh, and Grant Reynolds

Members absent: Andy Gilmore, Vito Macaluso, Denise McGinley, vacant

Others present: Gail Fallar, Sec.

Michael called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Reviewed agenda, added concern from Kim regarding replacement batteries for telephones when there is a power outage lasting more than a few hours. Minutes of December 11, 2017 were read and approved as written, moved by Bob, 2nded by Kim, all voted in favor.

Gail reported no application had been received regarding the 52 Sugar House Lane affordable housing question.

Plan of work for 2018 – Grant presented list from Select Board Chair Frank Sears regarding establishing an economic development committee. They had met to discuss economics, land use, permitted uses, etc. Members reviewed list, many are already permissible and already happening but don't increase the tax base in town. After discussion, members took the matter under advisement (TUA as the late Bob Whittingham used to say).

Members will try to join a webinar regarding Act 171 dealing with planning for forest blocks and wildlife corridors – though this PC has already addressed them in the town plan and in zoning.

Members discussed the search for new members, looking for younger members and women members, a number of folks were suggested, various members offered to contact them to see if they are interested.

February meeting will address PUD removal from zoning regulations and how to address decks adjacent to docks on Tinmouth Pond – change the setback or authorize the zoning administrator to permit it in certain situations. Members discussed older houses, how to create an opportunity for owners to do something to keep them from simply falling down, such as allowing a smaller lot size?

On a historic note, Grant advised that the Depperts house was built with a Dutch frame while the Capron, Graham and Holler gambrel roofed houses were built with English framing, possibly the same carpenter in the early days of the town.

Kim raised concerns about power outages that leave some folks with no way to contact the outside world when their fiber optic telephones don't work as the back-up battery has died. He is researching a solution which may include purchasing extra batteries to be used in that situation –

someone would need to install it – and it would also only last a few hours. Details still being worked on.

Members will look to town meeting for recruitment of new members.

Next meeting is February 15, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Secretary