



Public Meeting
Monday
July 16, 2012
Judge Welsh Hearing Room
6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Eric Gelinias, Dorothy Palanza, and Mark Weinress.

Members Absent: Marianne Clements, John Golden, and Peter Page.

Staff: David Gardner

Mark Weinress, Vice Chair, opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Agenda

Public Comments

There were none.

Discussion on Lighting Bylaw

Eric Gelinias has been speaking with different neighbors and a lot of people will back us if we're informative and get their cooperation. We need to make it lighting specific. A lot of people's gut reactions are negative but Eric feels that there is a way to make this work. Perhaps supplying the public with a list of pertinent words and their meanings might help everyone to understand the issues and aims.

Dorothy Palanza said that every bylaw tells people what they can and can't do. You have to see what the general consensus is. "Up-lighting" is a term that frightens people. She can envision commercial areas where people really want to have this.

Mark Weinress said that when you talk about spillage – up-lighting by its very nature causes spillage.

The discussion on up-lighting and spillage went on for quite a while with Eric asking why it's such a terrible thing and Dorothy saying that it may be a special affect that is warranted.

Mark said that we will not use “dark skies” in the terminology because people may not react well to certain terms. Eric said that this term touched off negativity.

Dorothy said that at the Crown and Anchor – their issue is lighting and it’s all down lit because people had been tripping over the cords, etc. So, it was thought that maybe Rick Murray might be a good person to get to talk to others. Then, another thought, if there’s a lot of lighting for an event and it’s not polluting – could this be an exception to the proposed bylaw?

David Gardner said that rotating light may be permitted but he said that we were not going to grandfather any other lights – there’s no grandfathering.

Mark said that light spillage could happen with signs and maybe we should stay away from that subject.

Eric said that the explanation is that we’re trying to balance practices that are in sync with the rest of the country and what people expect in a business community.

David does know about the street light replacement and he said that street lighting is the “*issue du jour*.” We’ve been working on it for a number of years and we’re trying to do it through Cape Light Compact. These perks are paid through everyone’s electric bill. Boston is doing it right now.....so we are not the first..... The Board of Selectmen (BoS) is on board and they’re very excited about it.

Dorothy has a sample page on her computer and it would be valuable to have it as a part of the proposed bylaw. Maybe send the link to everyone?

Mark said - the difference with these is that they are incandescent.

Dorothy said that the only other option is a low wattage bulb which would not be preferable.

Mark suggested that maybe we should have “energy efficiency” as part of the plea. People are onto this option.

Dorothy has sent the following company <http://greeneearthlighting.com> contact information but has thus far received no response. We had talked about having someone come in for the energy review plan. She’s sure that this is all about the cost factor.

Eric – if we were to entertain these people, there probably would be a charge.

David cautioned that the budget only covers secretarial services and a training budget and we haven't been taking training of late. We could probably work out the cost.

Dorothy felt that if we can't we find a source then maybe the FinCom could bankroll us for a presentation. So if this were presented appropriately perhaps we could get it funded. Other towns in MA have basic models so maybe they'd be a likely source, too.

Eric suggested maybe looking at Marblehead – Gloucester – other coastal towns that have by laws referring to their lighting. This would be a point of reference.

Mark said that we wanted to consider sending a letter to the BoS. Dorothy would like a letter sent to them to reinforce our interest in this.

The key phrases in the letter would be “not any cost to the town” and “non polluting.” These would be the selling points.

Much of the discussion hinged on semantics and the words that should and should not be used to garner support for the bylaw.

Dorothy asked David if we should continue to meet with work sessions and it might be a good idea for us to invite the ad hoc committee to join us.

The next meeting (after the July 23rd) is August 6th and then August 20th.

Dorothy would like the lighting bylaw presented at the Special Town Meeting which is tentatively projected for the end of October which means the warrant would close the end of September. She has a petition dated January 23rd, 2012 and she will e-mail it to David.

Mark said that we should have guidelines for businesses. David will try to get the ad hoc group to join us.

There was a question on why skypeing is not allowed for an absent member to participate in a meeting. Doug Johnstone will be asked, again, about this issue.

Motion: Move to send the BoS a letter recommending that we join the program offered by Cape Light Compact for its “No Cost Street Lighting Program.”

Motion: Dorothy Palanza Seconded: Mark Weinress Vote: 3-0-0.

Minutes of previous meeting

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the June 18th meeting as amended.

Motion: Dorothy Palanza Seconded: Eric Gelinas Vote: 3-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Motion: Move to adjourn the Planning Board meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Motion: Dorothy Palanza Seconded: Mark Weinress Vote: 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Gaudiano

Evelyn Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by _____ on _____, 2012.

John Golden, Chair