

Town of Cornish
PLANNING BOARD
17 Maple Street
Cornish, Maine 04020
Telephone: 207.625.4324 Fax: 207.625.4416

Monday, November 17, 2014
WORKSHOP MINUTES (Approved 12/1/14) Vote: 4 Yeas, 0 Nays

In Attendance: John Morrissey, Ken Hall, Bill Hoxie, Norm Harding, Mat Cama

Guests: Nancy Perkins

Call Meeting to Order: 6:36 PM by John Morrissey

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

1. Approve minutes of the October 20, 2014 Workshop Meeting;
 - a. On a motion by Ken Hall, seconded by Norm Harding, the minutes were unanimously accepted as presented. (5 Yeas, 0 Nays)
2. Approve minutes of the November 3, 2014 Business Meeting;
 - a. On a motion by Ken Hall, seconded by Norm Harding, the minutes were unanimously accepted as presented. (5 Yeas, 0 Nays)
3. Stone Ridge Restaurant: (See attached documents from CEO Wes Sunderland);
 - a. Mike Martin was not present. The documents from Wes Sunderland, CEO were discussed. Research clearly indicated the sign was in violation of the Land Use Ordinance on several issues (rapidly flashing, multiple messages, and animation causing a distraction to drivers). The Board voted to send a letter to Mr. Martin expressing these concerns, and supporting the recommendations proposed by the CEO. (Attached)
4. Downtown Parking:
 - a. More research will be forthcoming in a letter to the Selectmen with a list of possible solutions to the parking in the village. Nothing is readily available at the present time.
5. Rite Aid response (None to date);
 - a. Bill will forward to John the copies of the two letters sent to Rite Aid recently. John will follow them up.
6. Other:
 - a. A motion by Mat Cama to adopt the Right to Know Form as policy, was seconded by Ken Hall, and approved with a vote of 5 Yeas, 0 Nays.
 - b. There will be a charge of \$0.25 per page for copies of minutes and \$10.00 per disc (DVD) for audio of meetings.
 - c. The form will be available online and at the Town Office.

Public Comment: None

Communications Received/Sent: See #3 & 5 above

Agenda Items for Next Meeting: **BUSINESS Meeting – Monday, December 1, 2014 @ 6:30 PM**

1. Approve minutes of the Workshop Meeting of November 17, 2014
2. Other:

Adjourn: **8:02 PM**

Respectfully Submitted:

Bill Hoxie
Planning Board Secretary

Cornish Planning Board
PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW / FREEDOM OF ACCESS
Request Form

In accordance with the Town of Cornish Planning Board Bylaws and Rules of Conduct, adopted December 6, 2010, Article VII, Section 4, the following request form may be used.

Section 4. The Board shall make a record of all meetings by an appropriate means. Any individual or organization may obtain a copy of the record from the municipal office upon prepayment of the cost of transcription, reproduction, and postage.

The request forms shall be available at the municipal office. Records / transcripts can be read during regular Town office hours at no charge.

Planning Board agendas and approved minutes are able to be viewed at the Town Hall during regular business hours without charge. Normally, minutes are approved at the next regular meeting of the Board (for example, the minutes of the January business meeting are approved at the February business meeting); the workshop meetings follow the same pattern.

Except as otherwise provided by law or court order, the Planning Board may charge fees as follows:

1. A fee of \$0.25 per page to cover the cost of photocopying; a fee of \$10.00 per disc (DVD) to cover the cost of copying the audio recording of a meeting.
2. A fee of not more than \$10.00 per hour after the first hour of staff time per request to cover the actual cost of searching for, retrieving and compiling the requested public record. Compiling the public record includes reviewing and redacting confidential information.
3. If conversion of a public record into a form susceptible of visual or aural comprehension or into a usable format is necessary, a fee to cover the actual cost of conversion.
4. A charge for the actual mailing costs to mail a copy of the record.
5. No fee shall be charged for inspection of public records, unless the record cannot be inspected without being compiled or converted, in which case paragraph 2 or 3 applies.

As required by law, the Planning Board will provide, within five (5) business days, the person making the request an estimate of the time necessary to complete the request and of the total cost and, if the cost exceeds \$30.00, will inform the requestor before proceeding. If the estimated total cost exceeds \$100.00 or if the requestor has previously failed to pay a fee assessed for access to Planning Board records, the requestor may be required to pay the balance due in addition to the estimated cost of the present request as a prepayment.

Ref: 1 M.R.S.A. § 401

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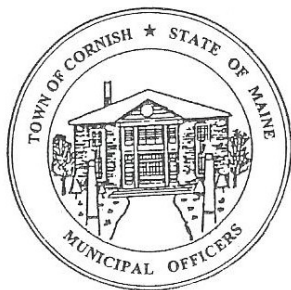
Cornish Planning Board
PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW / FREEDOM OF ACCESS
Request Form (For your convenience)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street/PO Box Town State Zip Code

I am requesting access to the following public document(s):

Signature _____



Town of Cornish
PLANNING BOARD
17 Maple Street
Cornish, Maine 04020

November 21, 2014

Mr. Mike Martin, Proprietor
Stone Ridge Restaurant
185 Maine Street
Cornish, ME 04020

Dear Mike:

At the workshop meeting on Monday, November 17, 2014 the Board discussed the illuminated sign at your restaurant. Wes Sunderland, CEO was present and informed us of the results of his two visits and recommendations available to bring the sign into compliance with the criteria as specified in the Land Use Ordinance.

It was noted that the sign has been "toned down" somewhat and no longer has the brilliant and rapidly flashing message. That is a major improvement, as we have several complaints that it was distracting to drivers.

Upon further review of the ordinance, it became obvious that the CEO was correct in his assessment and proposals to bring the sign into compliance with the Ordinance. His recommendations include:

- The sign may be constantly lit without flashing between 7:00 AM and 11:00 PM.

- Only one message may be displayed.

- Content of the message may be changed twice per day, as follows:

- o At the start of the workday.
 - o Between lunch and dinner time.

- Sign lights must be turned off during non-operational business hours.

The Planning Board supports the above recommendations. Please feel free to contact us if we can be of further assistance. The Selectmen meet next Tuesday evening, November 25, at 6:00 PM in Pike Hall; call the Town Office (625-4324) if you would like to meet with them.

We wish you continued success with your business.

Sincerely,

Bill Hoxie
Planning Board Secretary

Cc: Cornish Selectmen
Cornish CEO
Applicant File

↓ Pg. #1.

Revisited Stone Ridge Restaurant concerning their sign and the previous visit. Spoke again with Guerin Cart who indicated that the message had been relayed to Mike Martin. (phone: 207-650-5802).

Immediately phoned/talked with Mike Martin. We discussed all the pertinent points concerning the sign operation and messages.

CEO Log:

Nov. 10-16, 2014

Log #13 Page #2

Mike claimed that the sign is being turned off at business closure. He further believed that the rapid changing of messages was not a definition of blinking or flashing of the sign. "Flashing was rapid blinks during the current message showing". He was not receptive to terminating the message changes and to establish only two messages per day that may be pertinent to the activity or menu of the day.

Mike further stated that HE did not own the sign, but only the restaurant. It was stressed that the messages were directed towards the restaurant activity and that HE had control of the sign messages.

Mike requested that he wished to speak with the town officials. He was directed to the next Planning Board Work Shop on Nov. 17th. At that time he could express his views and discuss a settlement. The phone conversation was terminated with friendly and some positive results. (The planning board has been advised).

VIOLATIONS

Sign Change

1ST VISIT

Oct. 22, 2014

1. Flashing-blinking sign message cannot exist. Termination of flashing message.
2. Sign must be turned off during non-operational business hours.

Ordinance states: Illumination of signs shall be permitted only between the hours of 7 am and 11 pm,.....and during such hours as the establishments are lawfully open to the public or work hours are regularly in effect.

Recommend

Interior light at top of sign is acceptable.

Message light of sign may continue as:

1. Constantly lit message without flashing.
2. Only one message to be displayed
3. Content of message may be changed twice per day
 - A. at start of work day
 - B. between lunch and dinner time

Sign may be lit between 7am & 11 pm, or during regular work hours.
Sign lights must be turned off during non-operational business hours.