

Town of Cornish  
**PLANNING BOARD**

17 Maple Street  
Cornish, Maine 04020

Telephone: 207.625.4324 Fax: 207.625.4416

**Monday, July 10, 2017**  
**BUSINESS MEETING**

App



APPROVED

7-17-17

**Attending:** X Jessica Larson; X Ken Hall; X Norm Harding; X Eve Bergstrom; X Kim Printy;  
X Shelby Oates X \*Wes Sunderland \*

**Guests:** Tiffany Parent, Les MacMaster, Brian Hartford, Erica Hartford, Craig, Mr. & Mrs. Fulginitti,  
Will Hoxie, Aaron Fox, Selectman Dan Sherman, Selectman Carlton Candage, +1

**Call Meeting to Order:** 6.29 PM by J. Larson

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

**Agenda Items:**

1. **Approval:** Workshop Minutes, June 19<sup>th</sup>. **Approved.**
2. **Unfinished Business:** Town Vote, Adult-Use/Recreational Marijuana
  - a. **4 Criteria for town to keep in focus:**
    - i. **Regulating,**
    - ii. **Impact on the CEO (due to lack of regulating body)**
    - iii. **Fiscal Responsibility**
    - iv. **Public Safety**
  - b. Chairperson holds concerns: 1) police force capabilities & 2) lack of current regulations; J. Larson is curious to know where CAB stands on the issue as they have a vested interest;
  - c. Chairperson requests feedback on matter at hand from each board member:
    - i. **Bergstrom**—Wants to see the town informational meeting and vote as soon as possible;
    - ii. **Harding**—Wants to maintain integrity of town's expectations for the historic district; there is potential for his backing of town prohibition of retail.
    - iii. **Printy**—Is concerned that the appropriate information has not been given to the town and that we are rushing into a total prohibition which she does not endorse.
    - iv. **Oates**—Not behind total prohibition or expedited decisions. Does not want a vote that is strictly designed for prohibition, the ballot should represent more than one perspective; believes the assumption that those who voted for legalization associated with the presidential ballots of 2016 were not informed in their vote and now wish to prohibit is presumptuous misinformation that should not be considered in this process;
    - v. **Hall**—We are here to represent the town, enforce its regulations, and serve the public; he wants to see the town progress but wants to see the town progress in an appropriate way; he wants the board and selectmen to get a handle on things;
  - d. Chairperson shares various information from neighboring towns and other states being used as model for the process; *\*See J. Larson for information shared.*
  - e. J. Larson is researching lawyers currently to approach an injunction, but it is in the Selectmen's hands; J. Larson will attend upcoming Selectmen meeting, Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup> to continue to encourage securing legal representation;
  - f. **Selectmen:**
    - i. Received much outreach.
    - ii. Contacted Sheriff's Department and representatives; Sheriff has spoken to the owner of the inn and they will continue to monitor;
    - iii. Issue lies with loosely composed law;
    - iv. Requests any current ordinances that citizens believe are being broken to be emailed to them for consideration;
    - v. Last week town enacted occupancy ordinance violation to the inn; was advised that an injunction is not the path to take, but to enforce ordinances.

3. **Continued Business: Hartford Mini-Subdivision**
  - a. **Site Walk** 9am, July 10<sup>th</sup>;
  - b. **Harding:** Believes it is a sound plan; 15.5 acres total, 4 houses currently planned, one potential in the future; speculated smallest lot is 2 acres;
  - c. **Water Department:** No issues with securing all necessary water outlets/ordinances;
  - d. **Selectmen:** Ensure size of each lot and driveway entrance match ordinances (18 ft. for the driveway to serve 4 buildings with a 50-ft. right-of-way in the entrance zone;)
  - e. **Mr. Hall:** What driveway access will be used once new personal residence is on the property?  
**Response:** There is a separate private driveway already in use for their current residence; **Mr. Hall:** Can you put in a more permanent road? Paved? Fitting town approved road ordinance?  
**Response:** Under consideration; **CEO:** One condition for frontage off RTE. 5 for driveway;
  - f. **Site Plan requested to move forward.**
  - g. **Non-Binding Vote Taken: Unanimous Approval**
4. **Other: Shooting Range,** possible letter sent to Mr. Humphrey to warn of approval time frame;

**Public Comment:**

2. **W. Hoxie:** Presented a letter of concern requesting town/selectmen to protect the integrity of Cornish.
2. **T. Parent:** Responded report of basic concerns to Larson's mention of CAB as she has attended meetings (*Oates requests actual CAB member's/official minutes report*). **Concern** with multiple-question ballot instead of single-question prohibition, Cornish could be left open to unknown and threatening facets. **Concern** of budgets to cover appropriate police/fire/town personnel to support movement. Told by organizations she has contacted to find what exists in current ordinances that could prohibit; found supportive research for town to define "gifting" prohibition in detail.
2. **L. MacMaster:** The board is in the position to consider the language of the town ballot and to seriously consider providing the people with a vote for the various categories at stake. **In response to T. Parent's** above concerns, believes the focus can break open details such as potential revenue and employment. **In response to A. Fox's** concerns below, a dry town is what the board is faced with and the meetings Mr. Fox attended (and refers to below) had nothing to do with movements like The Laughing Grass Inn, but with medicinal ordinances. Wants consideration of potential fees for licensing of cultivation facilities to benefit Cornish. **In response to general gifting concern,** ordinance would have to be changed on the state level. Lawyers will need to decide. If town wants to stop businesses such as The Laughing Grass Inn, an injunction will need to be secured.
2. **Selectman Candage:** Believes it disrespectful for people to disregard current moratorium;
2. **Cornish United Church of Christ: General Concern:** Believes matters are in the Selectmen's hands. Would like to see someone draft an ordinance to include transaction prohibition of free *or* purchased.
2. **A. Fox:** Told by L. MacMaster at previous informational community meetings, that if we "get ahead of it", it wouldn't be in the center of town and now it is; invested \$400k into Cornish and this concerns him greatly to have a business of this nature located right next to his church (CUCofC from above comments) with programs for children and being only about 20 yards from town square; inquires if moving to establish a dry town is possible (See all above commentary and agenda item notes for response).
2. **D. Perkins:** She has designed a petition and would like feedback to know if the wording is correct; prohibition petition needing 80 signatures (10% of last vote) specifying retail prohibition in total. Her intention is to present to Selectmen to force written ordinance.
3. **S. Cope in Representation of her Parents (Abutters):** They are concerned with the shared driveway and just uncertain of how it will play out.

**Communications Received/Sent:**

- 24 Abutter Notifications for Hartford Mini-Subdivision
- YWSG Site Walk, Hartford Mini-Subdivision, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 9 am
- YWSG COD for July Business Meeting Due to Holiday
- Invitation Bonney Memorial Library Groundbreaking, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm

**Agenda Items for Next Meeting: \*Workshop Meeting – Monday, July 17, 6:30 PM**

- Approve minutes of the Business Meeting, July 10, 2017.
- **Continued Business:** Comprehensive Plan
- **Report:** Selectmen Meeting Review/J. Larson
- **Other:**

**Adjourn: 7:56 p.m.**