

Town of Newington, NH  
PLANNING BOARD

Meeting Minutes, Monday, March 27, 2017

**Call to Order:** Chair Denis Hebert called the March 27, 2017 meeting at 6:30 p.m., followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Present:** Chair Denis Hebert; Vice-Chair Christopher Cross; Board Members: Bernie Christopher; Jack Pare; Mark Phillips; Jim Weiner; Alternate Members: Ken Latchaw and Peter Welch; Board of Selectmen's Representative, Mike Marconi; and Jane Kendall, Recorder

**Absent:** Planner, Gerald Coogan

**Public Guests:** Leonard Thomas

1) **Public Hearings:** Request for a continuance for a subdivision proposal by Michael E. Berounsky regarding property at 30 Swan Island Lane, Tax Map 53, Lot 9.

Chair Hebert informed the Board that Town Planner, Gerald Coogan had contacted the applicant with a request for a date certain, but the applicant had not responded. Chair Hebert suggested that the applicant's public hearing be continued to the next Board meeting on Monday, April 10, 2017, adding that the meeting could be continued again if the applicant was not prepared.

Board member, Jim Weiner commented that the applicant's request for a use variance with the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) was scheduled to take place on Monday, April 3, 2017.

Len Thomas of Newington Road stated that he would not be able to attend the April 3, 2017 ZBA meeting, but he wanted to address his concerns regarding runoff. Chair Hebert replied that he needed to address the ZBA himself so there would be no appearance of conflict from the Planning Board. Chair Hebert added that the ZBA request was regarding frontage and had nothing to do with drainage, however he could send a letter to the ZBA regarding his concerns, include photos, and cc the Planning Board. He added that he could also attend the Monday, April 10, 2017 Planning Board meeting to address his concerns regarding drainage.

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## PLANNING BOARD

Meeting Minutes, Monday, March 27, 2017

*Bernie Christopher moved to continue to Monday, April 10, 2017 the request for a subdivision by Michael E. Berounsky regarding property at 30 Swan Island Lane, Tax Map 53, Lot 9. Jim Weiner seconded the motion and all were in favor.*

### **2) Other Business and Discussions:**

Chair Hebert announced the premiere of a locally produced documentary, Great Bay: An Estuary in Peril to be shown at Oyster River High School on Thursday, March 30, 2017 and open to the community.

Chair Hebert also announced that someone from Durham would be doing an episode for Chronicle New Hampshire regarding Eversource's Seacoast "Reliability" transmission expansion project.

Chair Hebert went on to say that the Town of Durham were taking an environmental approach in objection to Eversource's project and had hired experts from Woods Hole Oceanic Institute.

Chair Hebert noted that the Northern Pass project was being paid by investors in Canada, but the costs of the Seacoast Reliability project would be passed on to rate payers even though it would run from Deerfield to the Seacoast and on to Boston. He added that a stepdown transformer would be a better option, but Eversource refused to discuss the possibility.

Alternate Board member, Peter Welch asked how the project would affect the tax rate for residents if the power plant was no longer in operation. Chair Hebert said the gas power plant was on the market for sale, and it generated fifty million dollars in revenue, however the gas-powered plants were doing well.

Alternate Board member, Ken Latchaw asked how Eversource could say they needed additional transmission lines and still take the power plant off line. Chair Hebert replied that after deregulation occurred, the utilities commission determined that it was okay to sell off the older coal plants.

*(Vice-Chair Cross arrived at 6:40 p.m. at this point in the meeting)*

**Minutes:** *Ken Latchaw moved to approve the Minutes for the March 13, 2017 meeting with corrections as noted. Jim Weiner seconded, and all were in favor.*

Board of Selectmen's representative, Mike Marconi commented that several people had inquired about minutes not being posted on the Town website after meetings. He said they were informed that they would not be posted until after they had been approved until the next meeting. Chair Hebert commented that the law states that draft minutes must be available to the public upon request within five business days. Recording secretary, Jane Kendall noted that both the Conservation Commission and

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PLANNING BOARD

Meeting Minutes, Monday, March 27, 2017

the Zoning Board of Adjustment had voted to have their minutes posted on the website in draft form as soon as they became available, however

**Adjournment:**        *Jack Pare moved to adjourn the meeting. Peter Welch seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.*

**Next Meeting:**        Monday April 10, 2017

**Respectfully  
Submitted by:**        Jane K. Kendall, Recording Secretary

*These Minutes were approved and adopted at the April 10, 2017 Planning Board Meeting.*