



Williamsburg Planning Board

141 Main Street, P.O. Box 447

Haydenville, Massachusetts 01039-0447

Phone: (413) 268-8400

Fax: (413) 268-8409

Minutes
for meetings on
May 7, 2019
Approved

Members:	present	not present		present	not present
Robert Barker	x		Jean O'Neil	x	
Steve Snow	x		Amy Bisbee	x	
Steve Smith	x		Eric Schmitt		x
Chris Flory	x				
Others present: Linda Clafflin and Karen Tripp, partial					

1. Review of minutes

Meeting Date:	Comments	Motion to Accept	Motion to Accept as Amended	Second	Vote Yea – Nay
04/29/19	Meeting with ZBA, Special Permit for Thomas Wright; solar hearing for Hatfield Rd		Smith (pending attachment of minutes from hearing)	Barker	6-0

- Chair Robert Barker called the meeting to order at 7:02. Guest Clafflin of 7 Dewey Circle in Haydenville had questions about the process for subdivision of a lot so she could buy part of Tripp's property. Barker informed her of the requirements. She recorded the conversation. Both guests left after this.
- The purpose of this meeting was to discuss a complaint by Thomas Wright to the State Attorney General about a violation of the Open Meeting laws at the Special Permit hearing on April 29. Barker opened the conversation with questions of what precipitated the complaint and actions to take to address the complaint.
- Mr. Wright did not believe that the PB had posted a valid public notice for holding a PB meeting at the hearing. The process for handling a complaint of this nature includes a meeting of the PB to review the complaint, preparation of a letter to the Attorney General about the matter, and identification of plans to avoid such problems in the future. A draft letter was discussed and minor changes suggested. Smith moved and Flory seconded to accept the letter with changes.
- This meeting was posted correctly. However, in the future, the PB will exert even greater care to assure we do not meet or deliberate without a posted meeting. An Open Meeting Law Regional Training Workshop was announced for May 16 in Amherst.
- There was a preliminary conversation about the Chair not renewing his term this year. We agreed to discuss transitioning in general at the next meeting.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM. The next scheduled meeting will be May 20.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean O'Neil