

Minutes of the Meeting of the Panton DRB/PC - April 3, 2014

Present: Chair David Raphael, Jim Darragh, Barb Fleming, Kirsten Dela Cruz, Louise Giovanella, Heidi Mahoney, Mary Rudd, Zoning Administrator Ed Hanson and Jamie Dayton, Robert Rudd

Minutes to the meetings of the DRB/PC were tabled due to lack of a quorum of members present at those meetings.

Jamie Dayton as a Panton delegate to the ACRPC said he will be voting on whether to support Phase 2 of the proposed Vermont Gas Pipeline Extension and requested input from the PC. Members generally expressed qualified support citing the lack of any existing alternative energy source capable of supporting such large users as Porter Hospital, benefit from the reduced emissions from burning natural gas instead of oil at the Ticonderoga Paper Mill, better air quality for Addison County residents, and benefits to our neighbors in Rutland from reduced fuel costs in the future. There were also reservations expressed that once the infrastructure was built, it would be more difficult to fund alternative power projects in the future. The main criticisms expressed concerned the way Vt. Gas has interacted with the citizens of the county.

It was noted that the Final Plat Hearing on the Gaouette development proposal on Spaulding Road and Lake St. will be held in 2 weeks on April 17th at 7pm at the Panton Town Office. Chair Raphael stated that he supports the decision regarding the request reached by the Board at the conclusion of the preliminary plat hearing.

David informed the meeting that Ben Chamberlain has resigned the Board due to conflicting commitments in New York state. It was agreed that two members of the same family should not serve on the Board.

Robert Rudd expressed concerns that he has as an abutter regarding proposed placement of the houses.

David noted that the Panton Selectboard has communicated with Kevin Brennan, lawyer representing the applicant, with requirements and preconditions for obtaining curb cuts, obtaining permission for accessing utilities and using the right of way.

Administrator Ed Hanson informed the Board that at the April 17th meeting, the Gaouette hearing will be followed by a hearing for the request of a waiver by Steven and Robyn Mundell for the reconstruction of a pre-existing non-complying uncovered deck at their property on Staton Drive.

Following the Mundell hearing, the Board will be hearing the application of Robert and Joan DeGraaf for a change of use of their agricultural supply facility, known as BJ's Farm Supply, to a retail convenience store.

David noted that he had been contacted by Andy Megroz who expressed concern about the proposal. David said he would contact him to inform him of the upcoming hearing.

Ed Hanson informed the Board that there has been a request made to the state by the Vorstevelds for an extension on their barn buildings which will further encroach on the right-of-way. While the Board has no purview over the application to the state, David noted that he wants to make sure that there is no further incursion on the right of way and that there are no issues of safety.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Giovanella, Sect.