



Meeting Minutes
North Hampton Planning Board
Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 6:30pm
Town Hall, 231 Atlantic Avenue

These minutes were prepared as a reasonable summary of the essential content of this meeting, not as a transcription.

In attendance: Tim Harned, Chair; Nancy Monaghan, Vice Chair; Members Dan Derby and Jim Maggiore, Select Board Representative; Jennifer Rowden, RPC Circuit Rider; and Rick Milner, Recording Secretary.

Chair Harned called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

I. Old Business

None.

II. New Business

None.

III. Other Business

1. Review of proposed 2017 Vegetative Buffer zoning amendment.

Ms. Rowden presented proposed revisions to the Wetland Conservation Areas section of the zoning ordinance. The intent of the revisions is to provide better ways to protect water quality which is one of the primary purpose statements in the Town of North Hampton Master Plan. One of the best ways to protect water quality is to establish vegetative buffer zones adjacent to water and wetlands areas. Establishing and maintaining natural vegetation and plant life along wetlands areas and banks of streams and ponds provides the following benefits:

- a. stabilizes banks of waterways to reduce erosion
- b. creates habitat for wildlife
- c. filters stormwater run-off pollutants
- d. creates space for storing excess water from heavy rains; thereby reducing possible flooding issues.

Ms. Rowden stated that the current zoning ordinance language only includes structural setbacks. She suggested that a minimum 25 foot vegetative buffer zone be included within the structural setback to maintain existing natural vegetation. A 25 foot vegetative buffer zone is common in other area communities. However, some communities do have larger buffers.

Mr. Harned made the following suggestions for amending the vegetative buffer proposal:

- a. separate the purpose statement and definition of vegetative buffers for clarity
- b. create separate categories for each defined area (wetlands, tidal, setback, buffer, etc.) within the Wetlands Conservation District and identify the permitted uses within each area for clarity

- 47 c. the uses currently permitted within the tidal lands may need to be included within other
48 wetlands and buffer areas.
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50 2. Review of proposed Storm Water Management regulations.

51 Ms. Rowden continued her presentation from the September 20 meeting regarding proposed storm
52 water management regulations. Ms. Rowden presented a NHDES Storm Water Manual which detailed
53 site construction design criteria and post-construction best management practices intended to provide
54 the best ways to efficiently manage storm water flow and ground infiltration. Ms. Rowden further
55 continued her review of the proposed site plan regulations language derived from the Southeast
56 Watershed Alliance storm water model ordinance.
57

58 3. Review of proposed 2017 proposed Definitions zoning amendment.

59 Mr. Derby Mr. Derby presented a list of definitions to be revised or added to the zoning ordinance. The
60 definitions covered the following subjects:

- 61 a. building height and grade plane
62 b. home occupations
63 c. lot
64 d. dark sky standard
65

66 4. Minutes.

67 Mr. Harned presented the minutes of the September 20, 2016 Planning Board meeting.

68 Ms. Monaghan requested that the minutes be corrected as follows:

- 69 a. In line 60, insert "Sign Committee" after "Planning Board."

70 **Mr. Derby moved that the Planning Board accept the minutes of the September 20, 2016 Planning**
71 **Board meeting as amended. Second by Mr. Maggiore. The vote was 3-0-1 in favor of the motion with**
72 **Mr. Harned abstaining.**
73

74 The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm without objection.
75

76 Respectfully submitted,
77
78
79

80 Rick Milner
81 Recording Secretary