

Minutes accepted and approved.

Motion made by: Troccoli

2nd by: Holdridge

In Favor: 4 Opposed/Recused: 0 Absent: 1 Vacant: 0

Signed and Dated: *Sandra Allen 2/15/2024*

Town of Windham Planning Board Meeting

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Board Members Present: Chairperson: Thomas Poelker via phone
Members: Mike Troccoli, Nate Holdridge, Claudia Lane
Recording Secretary, Sandra Allen

Board Members Absent: Lisa Jaeger

Also Present: Joseph Bebehner, Siobhain Lavery, Joe Gorberg, Jon Sisti, Rita Sisti, Richard Tollner, Atossa Kia, Thomas Hoyt, Sarah Hjorthol, Maria Elena Papson, Caroline Cosgrove, Ronnie Bendernagel, Stephen Bendernagel, Jon Licurse, Marianna Leman, Chiyslele Arsty, Nolly, Fred Mazza, Robert Giordano, Karl Anshanslin, Kris Schmidt

Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Poelker appointed Sandra Allen as a voting member and acting Chairperson.

SKETCH PLAN: Atossa Kia, Catskilllette Food Truck parked at 5369 Route 23. Kia presented the sketch plan. When it was explained that she needs to apply for a site plan she stated she was a former attorney and does not read that in the law. This Board will have the Town Attorney advise on this matter.

PUBLIC HEARING - SITE PLAN: Town of Windham – Windham Path 4939 State Route 23 TM# 96.00-2-54. Proposed project is a public Dog Park. Read the Notice for the record. Received certified mail receipts. Received the map of the project as presented. Hoyt reviewed plan for the Public, nice fencing, four feet tall, sally port for leashing and unleashing, separate areas for large and small dogs, agility activities, water via well, benches for dog owners, shade trees, currently west of parking, maintained by Town, less than an acre in size, waste station, no lighting. Funded by fundraising.

The Public came up to have a closer look at the map. Concerns presented from the project was this will change the experience of the Path and is there another place for it. Hoyt explained how all the other Town owned properties were not conducive to the project. A question and concern is, will it be grass and if it is it will become a muddy mess and people will end up not picking up after their dogs. A better option is astroturf. It was explained that the area to be used is sloped and therefore will have drainage/runoff from rain and snow. Someone also mentioned that unlike many other dog parks this one will have a half mile walk around it. Another expressed that this project does go with the surroundings and esthetics of the area and that there are already many dogs on the Path.

The hope is that this will take care of the majority of complaints concerning irresponsible dog owners that currently use the Path giving them a designated area to unleash their dogs.

Ms. Cosgrove read a prewritten comment. (see attached 2)

Someone suggested a dog free zone/time for people who wanted to enjoy the path with no dogs.

Motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Troccoli, seconded by Lane with 4 in favor and 2 absent. Reviewed SEQR part 2. Motion for NegDec was made by Holdridge, seconded by Troccoli with 4 in favor and 2 absent. Board members will do a site visit.

MINUTES: Motion to approve Jan 18 minutes was made by Troccoli, seconded by Holdridge with 4 in favor and 2 absent.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM on a motion by Troccoli, seconded by Lane with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Allen, Recording Secretary

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