

TOWN OF NAHANT

Planning Board

September 19, 2023

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm, stating that the hearing was properly noticed, and then calling the roll of those members attending:

Rob Steinberg – Chairman - Here

Sheila Hambleton – Not Here

Patrick O'Reilly – Here

Steven Viviano – Here

J Shannon Bianchi, Corresponding Secretary – Here

John Stabile – Not Here

Michelle Capano - Here

Rebecca Flacke - Here

James Dolan – Not Here

The meeting began with a discussion about the fact that public notice showed the meeting to be at Town Hall and zoom, but no one was at Town Hall. The Chairman stated that we would meet but not vote on any motions and defer the key issue of appointment of officer for the PB. That was acceptable to the PB members.

With respect to that issue, Michelle said she cannot take on an officer role. Discussion ensued about covering the secretary position and a consensus developed about it would be acceptable for the corresponding secretary and recording to be one person.

The PB then discussed the importance of improving the building permit process and the lack of communication between boards/commission. For example, it was noted that it was not clear ConComm was briefed on issues at the ZBA on 89 Willow Rd.

On expiration of COVID rules, the consensus of the PB was that the Chairman should alert the BOS of the need for several establishments to comply with pre-COVID rules and the Tides, for example, to seek approval of the PB and Concomm for outdoor dining.

The PB discussed the timing of the Master Plan revision and determined that it would not be possible to coordinate with Town Hall on grants in the Fall of 2024 but discussion with Tony should occur.

The PB next addressed meeting process at the PB. The Chairman said that, based on a suggestion from Patrick, I would propose adding the following added language at the end of Section 2.01 (which is adapted from the Town of Lexington):

or any legally binding action of Town Meeting or any act of the Massachusetts General Court. In the event of conflict, the latter shall control. The Planning Board may also follow customary usage or any specific rules governing meetings that are approved by a majority of the Planning Board members to the extent not in conflict with controlling law cited in the preceding sentence.

The Chairman stated we could also adopt the following specific approaches which were discussed at a prior PB meeting:

- i. Chair can set agenda but will seek input from other members on agenda items and generally will add agenda items suggested by members
- ii. Chair may make substantive comments and make motions and vote as well as generally direct the meeting
- iii. Chair shall generally ensure all members had an opportunity to speak before allowing alternate members to speak and then allowing, in his discretion, members of the public to speak.
- iv. Any member may make a motion to take exception to a determination by the Chair

This issue will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

The Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Michelle and seconded by Shannon. The vote was as follows:

Rob Steinberg – Chairman - Yes

Sheila Hambleton – Not Present

Patrick O'Reilly – Yes

Steven Viviano – Yes

J Shannon Bianchi, Corresponding Secretary – Yes

John Stabile– Recording Secretary – Not Present

Michelle Capano - Yes

Public meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm

Meeting Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary and Rob Steinberg.

Approved by Planning Board on October 3, 2023 .