

Shutesbury Planning Board Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2018 Shutesbury Town Hall

Planning Board members present: Jim Aaron, Deacon Bonnar, Steve Bressler, Jeff Lacy

Guests: Mary Lou Conca, Miles Tardie

Bonnar called meeting to order at 7:40PM.

Gees land swap: Peter Gees and the board discussed a possible swap of equal sized portions of adjacent parcels owned by him and a neighbor. The board saw no problem with his idea. Peter Gees will return with an ANR plan that facilitates the desired swap.

Public comment: Mary Lou Conca asked a series of questions about the distribution of power from the Wheelock Solar "sacred site". The board responded that the power went into the grid. In response to a question from Mary Lou about why the board had not allowed tribal representatives to visit the solar site, Jeff Lacy reminded her that Town Counsel had advised the board that it did not have the authority to overrule the objections of the landowner.

Solar update: Jeff Lacy reported that the drainage basins were holding water well, with a few small leaks and that he would visit the site on the 23rd, after recent rain.

Minutes of 12/20/17: The board approved unanimously the minutes of 12/20.

Possible zoning amendments: The proposal to require a special permit for the keeping of pigs on a parcel smaller than five acres engendered lively discussion. A consensus was reached to continue the discussion at another meeting. The board addressed marijuana dispensaries and agreed to propose a moratorium that would allow the town to consider the issue more fully. Jim Aaron suggested that a committee be formed that could review other towns' bylaws and experience.

Conway School/O32: Jeff noted that the state had agreed to provide a \$7000 grant and that he had volunteered to provide planning services as the town's match for the grant. The Select Board, in its wisdom, has decided not to go forward this year. Members of the board noted dismay.

Steve Bressler made a motion to adjourn. Jeff Lacy seconded. The board agreed unanimously and the meeting closed at 8:53

Notes taken by Steve Bressler and written up by Deacon Bonnar