



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 30, 2019

7:00 PM

ROOM 204, ACTON TOWN HALL, 472 MAIN STREET

Present: Joan Gardner, Jon Benson, Dean Charter, David Martin, Peter Berry arrived at 7:04 PM

Absent:

1. Opening

Ms. Gardner opened the meeting at 7:00 PM

3. New/Special Business

A. Board to Discuss Committee Appointment, Danny Factor, Planning Board

Ms. Gardner opened the meeting at 7:00 and read a statement to the public. Ms. Gardner outlined the procession for the hearing. Mr. Factor read a prepared statement to the Board of Selectmen. Town Counsel reviewed findings regarding the Board and reviewing any email correspondence or phone calls to other members of the Board prior to the open meeting. Mr. Martin asked several questions regarding Kelley's Corner Project, developments in town, how he would work with other Planning Board members. Mr. Berry commented on personal experience as a member of several Boards and since being elected to the Board of Selectmen and concerns on his ability to work collaboratively with other Planning Board members. Ms. Gardner commented on the COD meetings not running very smoothly and with some discord at times. Mr. Factor pointed out accomplishments with the COD. Mr. Berry questioned his ability dealing with discretionary decisions. Questioned about some people in town believe there is a conspiracy regarding the Planning Staff with developers to push development in town. Mr. Benson asked opinion on the West Acton Villageworks. Mr. Charter commented about speaking to the Chair of the Planning Board Ray Yacouby and felt progress is made if members are all on the same page. Questioned if it would be cooperative work towards the town's master plan if he were to be appointed to the Planning Board, commented about a communication with Nancy Tavernier and her concern for his opposition towards housing for moderate and low income housing

Jim Snyder Grant, West Acton – commented on an email he sent to the Board of Selectmen, and to think of Danny as an individual

Terra Friedrichs, West Acton – spoke on behalf of his character

Shauna Wilkins, West Acton – spoke on behalf his character

Karen Gutent, West Acton – spoke on behalf of his character

Susan Jakes, West Acton – spoke on behalf of his character

Alan Niles, Acton – made a comment about a room full of cheerleaders

Gregory Bishop 190 Main Street – spoke on behalf of his character

Mike Gowing, Harris Street – spoke on behalf of his character and the Board

Board members made final comments regarding the appointment of Danny Factor. Mr. Martin that he will vote for the appointment. Mr. Berry commented his concern about



the way he expresses his viewpoints. Willing to support the appointment. Mr. Benson commented about recent town article 29 to reduce the membership of the current Planning Board. Stressed the Planning Board is not an advisory board and must come onto the Board with no personal agenda. Feels that Mr. Factor will come in with personal agenda. Read from statements written on social media by Mr. Factor and will not support appointment to the Planning Board. Mr. Charter bases vote on philosophical basis. Will not support the appointment. Ms. Gardner commented on previous comment from the April 22, 2019 and will not be supporting the appointment. Mr. moves to appoint MR. Factor to the Planning Board, Mr. Berry seconds. The Board voted 2-3. The motion does not pass.

5. Adjournment

At 8:38 p.m., it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Memo from Nina Pickering-Cook on meeting outline
- Statement read by Joan Gardner
- Statement read by Danny Factor
- Volunteer Coordinating Committee Recommendation
- Citizen Email Comments