



Town of Danvers Planning Board

1 Sylvan Street, Danvers, Massachusetts 01923 | p: 978-777-0001

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Planning Board Members:

John Farmer, Chair
James Sears, Clerk
Margaret Zilinsky
Louis George
Torey Adler

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation October 13, 2020 7:00 p.m. MINUTES

John Farmer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present by roll call: John Farmer; James Sears; Margaret Zilinsky; Louis George; and Torey Adler.

Staff present: David Fields, Aaron Henry, and Joshua Morris.

John Farmer read an opening statement pertaining to the Executive Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, sec. 20 by Governor Charles Baker signed on March 12, 2020 on Remote Participation and Remote Conduct for Open Meetings.

Proposed zoning amendments:

The Planning Board continued public hearings for fall zoning amendments. The Board also opened a public hearing on an owner's petition from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for land between Armory Road, Dayton, and Centre Streets and Route 1. The applicant is seeking to rezone this land to the Highway Corridor District. The Planning Board voted via roll call vote on a motion from James Sears and seconded by Peg Zilinsky to close the public hearing on the rezoning petition submitted by MassDOT. The Planning Board voted via roll call vote on a motion from James Sears and seconded by Louis George to submit a favorable recommendation to the Finance Committee regarding the owner's petition submitted by MassDOT that Town Meeting approve the rezoning.

The Planning Board continued a public hearing on changes to the definition of animal husbandry and associated zones where that act is allowed or prohibited, per the Table of Allowed Uses of the Danvers Zoning Bylaw.

Aaron Henry presented the salient details of the zoning proposal.

Brittany Raesly, of 109 Hobart Street spoke in favor of the zoning proposal.

Matther Duggan, of 41 Chase Street, spoke on his concerns regarding the proximity of animals to abutting structures and properties.

Mike Skinner, of 11 East Street, noted his support of the zoning proposal. Sandra Brown, also voiced her support for the zoning proposal.

Attorney Nancy McCann also spoke in favor, on behalf of the Raesly's, to move forward with the zoning proposal in hopes to address an ongoing legal matter with the Zoning Board of Appeals and a lack of clarity within the current Danvers Zoning Bylaw and how it affects the keeping of animals.

The Planning Board voted via roll call vote on a motion from James Sears and seconded by Torey Adler to close the public hearing on the rezoning petition related to animal husbandry. The Planning Board voted via roll call vote on a motion from James Sears and seconded by Torey Adler to submit a favorable recommendation to the Finance Committee regarding the keeping of animals zoning proposal that Town Meeting approve the rezoning.

The Board continued public hearings Planning staff updated the Board on proposed zoning amendments for the scheduled fall town meeting. These amendments include changes to: Section 2, Administration; Section 4, Site Plan Approval; Sections 18-22, Character Based Zoning Districts; Section 33, Cluster Development; Section 40, Definitions; and the introduction of a new zone to place municipal and institutional uses in to a new, open space zone.

A question from Attorney Marc Goldstein, of Beverage and Diamond, P.C., regarding the proposed zoning amendment for the definitions section of the Zoning Bylaw was addressed by staff, who will work with Mr. Goldstein on creating a redlined copy of Section 22 of the Zoning Bylaw as well as addressing his specific concern with the definition of site development.

Aaron Henry presented on a proposed zoning amendment to be added as Section 26, related to civic and open space, to the zoning bylaw. Mr. Henry explained that, based on requested revisions from other Boards, that this item be tabled to a future Town Meeting beyond the anticipated November Town Meeting as there is more revision work to be done than the current timeline allows.

The public hearings were continued to the October 27th meeting of the Danvers Planning Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Peg Zilinsky moved to adjourn. Louis George seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

