

TOWN OF BEECH MOUNTAIN

Planning Board Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2014

Call to Order:

Chairman Andy Porter called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM. Other Board Members present in attendance were Pete Chamberlin and Matt Lavigne, and John Hoffman. Fire Chief Bob Pudney was also in the attendance, as well as Town Councilwoman Cindy Keller.

Adoption of Agenda:

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Approval of Minutes:

There was a motion that the minutes be approved. Said motion was seconded and passed with no objection.

Public Comment Period:

There were no public comments.

Discuss Burning Ordinance:

James Scott reviewed that the Planning Board had previously agreed upon a final version of the amendments to the Town's burning ordinance, but they wanted to see/ review it in print before sending it to the Town Council for possible adoption.

Mr. Scott reviewed the standards as they had previously proposed them. There were several points of conversation that were discussed:

- Mr. Scott noted that they had written the proposed ordinance in such a way that it would not apply to permanent, outdoor masonry chimneys that were built in accordance with the NC State Building Code. However, he had found some information that said that although the Building Code has a set of standards that apply to chimneys, many stand-alone chimneys did not fall under the jurisdiction of the code because they were not greater than 12 feet in any dimension. Nevertheless, the Board felt that the provision was worded in such a way that a permanent masonry chimney/fireplace would not be subject to its provisions so long as it was built to the standards contained in the Building Code, regardless of whether those standards were mandatory from the Building Code perspective.
- The Board debated about a provision that said that materials that could cause a fire to spread "including brush, limbs, and other combustibles" must be eliminated prior to ignition was too specific and might inadvertently be used to say that fires had to be more than 25' away from standing trees. The Board agreed to shorten the wording to just say, "conditions which could cause a fire to spread shall be eliminated prior to ignition."

After much discussion, the Planning Board came to an agreement to take no action on this matter at this time.

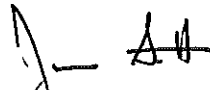
Other Business:

The Board agreed on a date of April 16, 2014 for a stakeholder's meeting regarding potential architectural standards for new commercial development on the Beech Mountain Parkway commercial corridor. A letter would be sent to stakeholders notifying them of the meeting.

Call to Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Scott', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

James Scott
Secretary to the Board