

*These minutes approved as amended by a vote of 4-0 on August 16, 2017.*

Ashfield Planning Board  
Ashfield Town Hall  
July 7, 2017

Present: Michael Fitzgerald (MF), Chair  
Jim Cutler (JC)  
Rick Chandler (RC)  
Alan Rice (AR), Clerk  
Meghan Bowen (MB), Scribe

Absent: Ken Miller (KM)

Guests:

Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM.

1. Board reviewed minutes from June 21, 2017. AR moved to approve minutes as amended, JC seconded. All in favor, 4-0, motion carried.
2. AR updated the Board on the progress of the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan. AR displayed the current map of open and undevelopable spaces in Town. The map will continue to be amended, and may include other important features such as river corridors in its final form. MF suggested that the title of the map be changed to include the word "undevelopable," to reflect that the definition of open space is not limited to areas that have been cleared. The ad hoc committee to update the Plan will meet again on July 18, 2017.
3. Board discussed the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership. RC said that the Partnership is currently a conversation between the U.S. Forest Service and private landowners. The Partnership would allow for private landowners to retain ownership of their land but be granted a federal designation. The proposed Partnership would also provide potential funding for towns seeking forestry-based economic development. RC plans on reporting back to the Board with more information after the next meeting of the Advisory Committee.
4. MF suggested that the Board print new copies of the Town's Zoning Bylaws, M.G.L. Chapter 40A, and the ANR Handbook. JC requested that the Board review and approve the latest version of the Zoning Bylaws at an upcoming meeting before printing new copies.
5. Peter Witanen (PW) called MF about a nonconforming lot that he owns with two primary residences on it. PW was seeking assurance that if he splits the lot into two nonconforming lots, the Board would sign his ANR. MF told PW that nothing is certain until the survey is complete.
6. AR will bring copies of forms he has been updating to the upcoming meeting. He will send the Board copies ahead of the meeting for prior review.
7. MB and AR will be in contact about working on the Board's filing system.
8. Board discussed agenda for the following meeting.

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9. AR moved to adjourn the meeting, JC seconded. All in favor, 4-0, motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Meghan Bowen, Scribe