

**Planning Board
Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2012**

Present: Michael Fitzgerald, Chair (MF)
Ken Miller (KM)
Alan Rice (AR)

The meeting is called to order at 7:40pm.

1. Board reviews the March 21, 2012 minutes. AR moves to accept the minutes, as amended. KM seconds and all vote in favor.
2. KM reports on his attendance as Ashfield Planning Board rep at the last month's FRCOG Regional Planning Board meeting. Highlights included a presentation on expansion of passenger rail in the Connecticut River Valley, as well as transportation improvements and food sustainability in Franklin County. This month's meeting has been canceled.
3. AR reviews April 10, 2012 public hearing of the Shelburne planning board regarding a petition to amend the zoning bylaws to ban industrial wind turbines in the town. The hearing was well attended (80+ people, including videotaping by 22News. Public comment mostly in favor of the ban, as there are concerns about the siting and scale of wind turbines on Mt. Massaemet.
4. MF reads a Wikipedia article on sound science, which focuses on the difference between sound measurements in North America and other parts of the world – a difference that creates complexities when describing the uniformity of sound measurements. MF also talks about three different applications available for smart phones that seemed to have unique ways of measuring sound, thus producing different results for the same type of sound. Need to use ANSI standards instead of IEC standards.
5. The Board discusses wind turbine facility setbacks and wind turbine heights.
6. The Board briefly discusses the appendix – on noise – to be included in the draft wind turbine facility bylaw. Section 14 (Application Procedures) is reviewed.
7. AR will edit the 2nd draft of the wind turbine facility bylaw and distribute by next Planning Board meeting (or following meeting).

Meeting adjourns at 9:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan Rice