

**Planning Board
Meeting Minutes of August 17, 2011**

Present: Michael Fitzgerald, Chair (MF)
Ken Miller (KM)
Sarah Holbrook (SH)

Others Present: Brian Clark, Charles Ross

The meeting is called to order at 7:35pm.

1. SH moves to accept the July 5, 2011 meeting minutes as written. KM seconds it and all vote in favor. SH moves to accept the July 6, 2011 meeting minutes as written. KM seconds it and all vote in favor.
2. Update regarding the Photovoltaic section to Bylaws – it is in the hands of the Select Board and awaiting another town meeting.
3. Discussion regarding GAW and tower placement. There has been a number of emailed inquiries and zoning concerns from GAW representatives and from D. Kulp to the Planning Board, however no formal application has been made. MF has responded to GAW and suggested they consult with the Building Inspector. David Kulp posed the question if a special permit would be needed for each tower erected. The Board discusses if a single permit for multiple facilities can be granted. MF offers to speak with J. Hawkins regarding this situation.
4. Charles Ross asks for information / clarification about agricultural exemptions and how such exemptions may or may not apply to the proposed Spruce Corner bio-gasification project. Mr. Ross specifically asks when classification shifts from agricultural to commercial. He states that Mr. Roberts' feasibility study indicates that he will be creating more energy than he will need.
5. Board reviews the 5.18.11 draft of the *Ashfield Wind Facilities bylaw*. The following items are discussed:
 - a. Add label to the document - *Section VI G (or H)*
 - b. 2.0 Definitions – removal of language “residence, place and business....” Replace with “nearby property”
 - c. Definition of Nacelle – removal of language – “at the top of the wind turbine....”
 - d. Definition of Turbine Height – language change – “...to the highest point of the structure that is ever reached during operation.”
 - e. Wind Turbine section – removal of last sentence
 - f. Possibly rewrite Wind Turbine Setback (Section 2.0 Definition)
 - g. Section 3.7 – years of permitting – SH would like to have the opportunity to review sooner than later
 - h. 4.2 Setbacks C – remove.

Meeting adjourns at 9:30 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Barb Sussbauer