

Webster Planning Board

Minutes - Meeting of May 21, 2009

Present: Chairman Cliff Broker; members Jere Buckley (Secretary), Richard Doucette, and Alan Hofmann; and alternates Richard Cummings, Sue Rauth, and Susan Roman. Also present: Planning and Zoning Secretary Mary Smith.

Chairman Broker convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance was taken, with the results noted above.

The Board reviewed the minutes of their 16 April meeting. Upon motion made by Mr. Doucette and seconded by Mr. Hofmann, the Board voted unanimously to endorse the April minutes as written.

Once again, there were no land-change-related items on the agenda.

Ms. Rauth updated the Board on the status of the Currier and Ives Scenic Byway, a 30-mile route from Salisbury to Henniker passing through Webster on Route 127. The Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission will be holding a series of four public meetings as part of a process leading to the corridor management plan" needed to qualify the project for the National Scenic Byways Discretionary Grants program. Funds under this program are available, and Webster will have the opportunity to propose relevant projects.

Ms. Roman reported to the Board on her participation as a member of a subcommittee of a State Groundwater Commission is holding public hearings to address the question of whether or not towns should have regulatory power over major groundwater withdrawals. She advised the Board that existing State law does not grant such authority to the towns and that Webster's regulations allowing commercial operations only by special exception could not be used to prevent such major withdrawals. She proposed, and the Board agreed, that the Board host one of the planned public hearings at Town Hall at a date to be determined.

Mr. Broker, while admitting that this is not a matter of Board responsibility, commented that a number of Webster roads are still littered with storm-caused debris. It was noted the FEMA funds may be available to deal with this problem.

Mr. Broker suggested that, given the low current level of land-change-related activities, the Board might devote some time to matters such as updating the requirements for boundary marking. Mr. Buckley agreed to extract the text dealing with that subject from his 2005 proposed *Subdivision Regulations* update for Board review at the next meeting.

There was a short discussion noting the problems inherent in current regulations governing in-law apartments. It was agreed that this subject warrants consideration at a future meeting.

Upon motion made by Mr. Doucette, seconded by Mr. Hofmann, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be on 18 June at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jere D. Buckley, Secretary