

03/05/07

Town of Damariscotta
Planning Board Meeting
March 05, 2007
Minutes

CONTENTS:

1. Review minutes of February 05, 2007 meeting.
2. Introduction to Town Planner, Anthony Dater.

ROLL CALL:

Chairman of the Board, George Parker called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. There was a quorum present throughout. Members present were Paul Stevens, Wilder Hunt, Jonathan Eaton, and George Parker.

The audience included:

- Greg Zinser, 21 School Street, Town Manager, Town of Damariscotta.
- Anthony Dater, 21 School Street, Town Planner, Town of Damariscotta.

1. Minutes

The Board was presented with and reviewed a draft copy of the minutes for the February 05, 2007 meeting. It was noted that the signature page was incorrect, a corrected copy will be submitted for Board signatures at the next meeting. Paul Stevens made a motion to approve the minutes with noted correction. Jonathan Eaton seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0 to approve the February 05, 2007 minutes.

2. Introduction to New Town Planner, Anthony Dater.

Chairman George Parker introduced the Board members present to the newly hired Town Planner, Anthony Dater. He then spoke to the Board about a meeting that took place earlier in the day with representatives of the French Family Trust regarding the property that goes from School Street to Paradise Pond, close to 260 acres. He told the Board that they are looking to develop the property but no formal plan has come forward yet. Parker noted that it was a huge piece of property.

The Town Manager, Greg Zinser then spoke to the Board about the plans of the Selectmen to convene a Planning Advisory Committee in an effort to bring together all the individual groups concerned with the future growth & planning in town. Zinser told the Board that it would be a select group that sits on the committee because the Selectmen want progress made, so it will be by invitation only and a member of the Planning Board should be on the new committee as well. Zinser went on to say that the committee will be given directives such as looking at the under utilized assets of the Town, such as the waterfront, as well as economic growth and more specifically the types of businesses that should be here. Anthony Dater talked about the visioning process as a whole. Parker asked if a member of the Board of Selectmen would sit on the committee. Zinser told him they would not, he and the Town Planner would be representing the Town and the Selectmen, and he wanted the Selectmen to be unbiased about ideas and plans brought before them by the committee. Parker asked if the committee would be only residents of Damariscotta. Zinser stated that was still being worked out, but right now they are concentrating on 4 surrounding towns (Newcastle, Nobleboro, Bremen, & Bristol) and are asking each to send 1 person to be interviewed to sit on the committee. Jonathan Eaton stated that the committee sounded like a good idea, noting that there are a lot of opinions in 1 town.

Paul Stevens asked the Town Manager if the Town has any plans to step in and help out the Round Top Center for Arts. Stevens asked about taking it by eminent domain. Both Zinser and Dater agreed that's

a battle the town doesn't want to undertake because there's usually no winner. Stevens then asked about the Main Street project. Parker stated that there are plans to restart around the beginning of April. Stevens asked if the Town had input. Zinser stated that there were many meeting in the past. Stevens then asked Zinser what his time frame was for this new committee. Zinser stated that there was a press release scheduled to go out this week and he plans to have applications close at the end of March.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Paul Stevens made a motion to adjourn. Jonathan Eaton seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0 in favor of adjournment.

George Parker, Chairman

Jonathan Eaton

Wilder Hunt

Pande Paul Stevens

Respectfully Submitted by:

Rebecca J. Bartolotta

Fred Sewall