

Town of Brookfield Planning Board
Noise Ordinance Subcommittee
267 Wentworth Rd.
Brookfield, NH 03872

Minutes for 7/30/2009 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Whelton at 6:38pm.

Committee members in attendance: Tom Whelton (Chair), Rob Collins, Brad Williamson

Committee members tardy: Clifton Camp (arrived at 7pm)

Members of the public in attendance: Ed Nason

Topic #1: Public Comments

- There were no public comments.

Topic #2: Review of the Draft Minutes for 7/21/2009

- Member Collins noted that 'Chair' was misspelled at the top of the first page.
- No other corrections were noted or submitted.

MOTION: To accept and approve the minutes for the meeting of 7/21/2009 as amended. (Motion by Member Collins Motion, 2nd by Chair Whelton)

VOICE VOTE: YEA (3) NAY (0)

MOTION APPROVED

Topic #3 Old Business

- A. Review of Statement of Purpose/Committee Charter: Chair Whelton distributed an amended draft of the Statement of Purpose/Committee Charter which incorporated the changes discussed at the 7/21/2009 meeting (see attachment). Further discussion ensued regarding achieving a balance for the protection of all parties in the Town. Additional discussion covered expanding the Statement of Purpose to explicitly cite objectives for the committee that would serve as a yardstick for success or failure. Suggestions for amendments were made and compromise was reached.

MOTION: To accept and approve the Statement of Purpose/Committee Charter as amended (Motion by Member Collins, 2nd by Member Williamson)

VOICE VOTE: YEA (4) NAY (0)

MOTION APPROVED

- B. Review of Each Committee Members Research Assignments

Chair Whelton began the discussion by distributing ordinance documents gathered from New Durham, Middleton and Ossipee.(see attachments) The documentation from each Town was reviewed and discussed with regard to each noise references. It was noted by Chair Whelton that the topic of noise was not exclusively covered within the Zoning Ordinance of each Town. Chair Whelton also noted that RSA 31:39 I (n) does not specify that a noise ordinance must be a

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component of the town's Zoning Ordinance; and that it may be addressed as an ordinance separate of the Zoning Ordinance.

Member Collins presented a one page computer screen print illustrating the pricing of various sound meters (see attachments) that could be used to enforce a potential noise ordinance dispute. Member Collins also noted that meters are both easily found via internet search and reasonably priced.

Member Camp continued the discussion by presenting his findings with regard to the Town of Wakefield. Member Camp spoke with representatives of the Police Department for the Town of Wakefield to determine how noise complaints are handled and the frequency of noise complaints. Member Camp indicated that noise complaints in Wakefield are most prevalent in the summer as the population swells. Member Camp also noted that the Police Department said they primarily attempt to mediate noise disputes seeking an immediate resolution of the issue. Since the Wakefield Police Department is contracted to cover the Town of Brookfield, Member Camp felt that this is how the police would choose to handle Noise complaints in Brookfield.

At the conclusion of the discussion Member Camp volunteered to obtain and review a copy of the Town of Wakefield Zoning Ordinance with regard to noise. Chair Whelton volunteered to do the same for the Town of Wolfeboro. Chair Whelton also volunteered to attempt to contact either the Code Enforcement Officer or Police for Middleton, New Durham, Ossipee & Wolfeboro to learn more about enforcement of each town's various noise ordinances.

Topic #4 New Business

- There was no new business.

Topic #5 Member Comments

- Comments were made by all four members discussing at length their positions regarding the purpose of the committee and the need for a noise ordinance.
- In his comments Member Williamson specifically requested an agenda item for the next meeting; a discussion as to whether or not any amendment Zoning Ordinance is needed at this time with regard to noise. The request was granted by the Chair and added to the agenda for 8/13/2009.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 8:42pm.