

Montague Planning Board

One Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376 (413) 863-3200 Ext 207 Fax: (413) 863-3222 Email: planner@montague-ma.gov

May 26, 2020 6:30 PM

Meeting held remotely in accordance with the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G. L. c. 30A, § 20, relating to the 2020 novel Coronavirus outbreak emergency

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Ron Sicard (chair), Fred Bowman (Vice- Chair), Elizabeth Irving

Staff Present: Walter Ramsey -Town Planner, Suzanne LoManto-Clerk

Absent : Matt Lord and Bob Obear, George Cook

6:33pm Ron Sicard opened the meeting.

6:35pm Approval of the April 28, 2020 Minutes *MOTION to Approve the April 28, 2020 Minutes by EI Second FB. By Role Call Vote Unanimous: MOTION PASSES*

6:31PM Subdivision Approval Not Required Endorsement: ANR #2020-02 544 Turners Falls Road to subdivide Map 42 Lot 25 into 3 parcels.

AF4 Zoning: Lot 1 stays with the house. Lot 2 is 5.5 acre lot which could be subdivided by right. LOT 3 is 9.3 acres which is very steep frontage and not suitable for building. The plan is adequate and ready for endorsement. Uses for these lots remains to be seen.

*MOTION by R.S. to endorse ANR #2020-02. VOTE UNANANAMOUS. MOTION PASSES
MOTION to make Ron Sicard is the sole signature. Seconded by E.I. MOTION PASSES*

6:50PM Planner Report

Use of public spaces for outdoor dining and retail as part of Covid-19 response to help businesses survive. Plans might include moving business into sidewalks, restaurants especially. The Town is working with the community to figure out what Phase One opening looks like for Montague, as well as a coherent policy. The Town has done some outreach and we need more information to give to the Select Board before we form policy. WR shows a concept of Avenue A, which sets aside sidewalk space for extended dining and retail, and routes pedestrians into the street in an ADA approved way. The Town will evaluate business plans on a case-by-case basis working toward a solution that is equitable, fair to all businesses.

R.S. Commends the Town for taking on this project. Planning Board is in support.

E.I recommends saving spots for retailers to sell outside, which is a pleasant way of shopping regardless of a pandemic.

MOTION by R.S to adjourn. Seconded by F.B. VOTE UNANAMOUS MOTION PASSES 7:31PM

Approved by: _____ Date: _____