

Lyme Planning Board Minutes
3/2/2023

Board Members and Staff Present: John Stadler, Chair; Tim Cook, Vice Chair; David Kahn, Select Board Representative; Vicki Smith, Member; Richard Menge, Member; Hebe Quinton, Alternate Rich Brown, Alternate; David Robbins, Planning and Zoning Administrator.

Board Members Absent: None

Members of the Public Present: Nat Niles

Item 1: Planning Board Alternate Appointment

John Stadler introduced Nat Niles and noted that he was interested in becoming a Planning Board Alternate. After a short discussion with Mr. Niles and no objections from the Board members, John Stadler moved to appoint Mr. Niles as an alternate to the Planning Board for a term of 3 years.

David Kahn seconded the motion.

John called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 3: Zoning Board Member Appointment.

The Planning and Zoning Administrator said that two members of the Zoning Board of Adjustment had resigned and the remainder of the Board members had requested that Alternate Member Zoe Washburn be appointed to the Board.

John Stadler moved to appoint Zoe Washburn to a three-year term on the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Vicki Smith seconded the motion.

John Stadler called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 2: Acceptance of minutes from 2/23/2023.

Dave Kahn moved to approve the minutes of 02/23/2023 as amended.

Rich Menge seconded the motion.

John Stadler called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 3: Solar amendment discussions.

The Board continued their discussions on solar energy systems. John asked for the consensus of the Board as to whether they felt that the small solar energy system portion of the proposed amendment is acceptable or whether it needs more work. The consensus of the Board was that it is satisfactory as written.

The Board decided that going forward they would work on regulations for Large Solar Energy Systems while working with the Energy Committee and the Lyme Energy Aggregation Committee to allow the community to take advantage of available programs.

The Board discussed information that would be needed for moving forward:

Are there practical limits of the electrical distribution grid that would limit the generation capacity of large solar systems supplying electricity to that grid?

How difficult would it be to upgrade the grid to add capacity?

What would Infrastructure upgrades entail, such as taller poles, wider crossmembers and larger tree trimming area?

Where are the 3 phase lines in Lyme to connect systems to the grid?

The Board felt that the best way to answer these questions was to invite representatives from both providers to talk to the Board.

John stated that he would talk to Steven Doig to try to get a NH Electric Coop representative to meet with the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
David A. Robbins
Lyme Planning and Zoning Administrator.