

ROCKY HILL PLANNING BOARD
Minutes of the May 10, 2005 Meeting

Present: Cann, Hasser, Nolan, Oakley (7:40), Pihokken, Whitlock, Youtz, Yuchmow

Absent: Ayrey, Harris, Roshetar

Also present: V. Bollheimer and K. Philip

Statement of Adequate Notice

Pursuant to the Sunshine Law, a notice of this meeting's date, time, place and agenda was mailed to the news media, posted on the Municipal bulletin board and filed with the Municipal Clerk. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

April 12, 2005: Postponed to next meeting.

Open Public Comment Period: The meeting was opened to the public. Susan Bristol, 104 Washington Street congratulated the board for the historic brochure and handed out copies of the brochure to those board members who were not on the board in 2004. J. Yuchmow asked for a copy of the text and Ms. Bristol advised that the graphics person who worked on the brochure may have the text. Being that there were no comments, a motion was made and seconded to close the public comment period. The vote was 8-0 in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman's Comments and Correspondence

C. Pihokken stated that the NJ Business and Industry's Good Neighbor Award has recognized an illustrative group of architects. He advised that a luncheon will be held next month. He stated that Susan Bristol, former Planning Board Chair, and the Planning Board are also being recognized by the Somerset Heritage Commission this Monday for Rocky Hill Historic Brochure that was created in 2004. He then announced that the business hours for the zoning office have changed. It will now be open from 4-6 pm on Wednesdays.

ByLaws Subcommittee

J. Yuchmow stated that the zoning board and planning board bylaws are being reviewed, V. Bollheimer was asked to prepare something and he passed around copies of the draft bylaws for board review. He advised that a copy has been forwarded to board members. He briefly discussed the separate elements and minor editing changes to the text were recommended on the floor by board members including page numbering and the description of the Planning Board Secretary.

V. Bollheimer was asked to describe the reason for an abstention vote. She stated that a vote of abstention is when the board member is not knowledgeable enough with the discussion item; it should not be because you find it difficult to make a decision on a topic. She provided further information about land use law advising that if you wish to make a comment on an application or item of discussion as a citizen and not a board member, then you must not sit on the board

and when speaking in public announce that you are speaking as a resident. If a board member believes that they have a conflict of interest with a proposal, then they should not vote on that item.

Motion was made by B. Nolan and T. Whitlock seconded the motion to approve the bylaws as amended. The vote was 8-0 in favor. Motion carried.

FOR: Cann, Hasser, Nolan, Oakley, Pihokken, Whitlock, Youtz, Yuchow

AGAINST: None

ABSTAIN: None

Other Business

C. Cann handed the Borough Clerk, R. Whitlock, a copy of the final Somerset County Cross Acceptance Report.

A motion was made by R. Whitlock and C. Cann seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. The vote was 8-0 in favor. Motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry A. Philip
Recording Secretary