

TOWN OF CHARLEMONT
MINUTES OF THE PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING
2/7/2008

Members Present: Bill Stephens ; Gisela Walker; Dan Miller; Amy Wales; Jerry Pratt; Trevor Mackie.

Meeting called to order at 7:05PM

Public present; Susan and Ted Willard, Paul Fantucchio, Earl Bowen, Att. P Lombardo, David Lipinski

Planning Board (PB) report for Town Report due by Feb 26, 2009 – Amy will start working on it.

No minutes to sign

Discussion about possible dates to work on organizing the filling cabinets – Hold for now

Next MPAC meeting will be Feb 13, 2008 at 7PM

7:15PM opened the continuation Hearing on the cell tower application by Earl Bowen (EB)

The Co-Chair opened by going over a list of items that the PB would like to cover and the order in which we would like them to be addressed. EB was acceptable to this order. EB provided an amended version of his application letter to Mr. Stephens (dated Nov, 5, 2007) that was submitted with the Special Permit Application (SP). New letter is dated Feb 7, 2008, also submitted was a picture of a Mono pine cell tower, color pictures of a trial balloon test that was done by the applicant and a cd containing the pictures. A configuration drawing of the 150' mono pole tower was submitted, bearing a Massachusetts professional Engineers stamp.

Discussion concerning the **balloon test**. Test balloon will be 40" in diameter and tethered at 150 feet. Test date will be Feb 16th, fallback date of Feb 17th. This test will depend on wind and weather conditions, if unable to do on these dates will establish other dates together with, Dan and Jerry who will go up with EB to the proposed site during the test. Gisela will look into using the Towns phone notification system to inform Town residents about the balloon test.

Tree canopy height. Although EB has a surveyor/forester on staff who has given his assessment of the canopy height, the PB proposes to hire an independent forester for a second opinion. Four names have been received from the State forester. Gisela will contact all four foresters, provide them with information on what the PB is looking for and will ask for what this would cost to do. The estimates will be provided to EB for him to evaluate, cost of this service to be paid for by the applicant per Bylaws. EB expressed the wish that this work could be done before the next Hearing.

Tree cutting around proposed site. EB expect to only clear an area approximately 100' X 100' for the site. Plus any trees that might be a hazard to the cell tower.

Pine Mono-pole picture is one that Glenn Martin Engineering sells, the maker of the tower also. Branches are UV coated and have a life expectance of 15 – 20 years. EB to check if there are any other pine mono pole towers erected in the area.

Site electrical power and land line **telephone service**. No determination yet as to how these will be provided. Options are underground or overhead, fiber and copper telephone lines, path they would take also not determined yet.

EB mentioned that he expects **cell tower coverage** to reach into the Charlemont Town area (school Town Hall), into Rowe, Heath, Savoy and along Rte 2. PB requested that information about cell coverage be provided. Between now and the next Hearing EB will look into obtaining such information.

MOTION: To continue this hearing to March 27th, 2008 at 7:15PM in the Town Hall.

Motion seconded **Passed** unanimously

8:40 Meeting with David Lipinski (DL) for a Form A (ANR Plan)

DL provided a plot plan for property he owns on Maxwell Rd. Looking to divide the property into 12 ANR building lots. Parcels have already had perk testing done and they passed. Each lot has the required frontage and lot size. PB

APPROVED the ANRs and signed the required copies.

PB decided to cancel their Post Office box and to have Kathy pick up the mail.

Adjourned at 9:35PM

Respectfully submitted,
Trevor Mackie