

**Zoning Board  
Memorial Building**

**March 22, 2011  
7:00 pm**

Present: Bill Sullivan, Katherine Richardson, Steven Berkley (alt), Susan Chiarella, Bryan O'Day, John Chiarella (selectmen rep.)

Also present: George McCusker, John Trachy, Leigh Callaway, Katie Richardson, William Huntoon, and Justin Hastings

John called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

John began the meeting asking if any of the board members would like to step up to take the position of Chairperson. No one responded.

Susan began the discussion stating she felt the best person for the position would be the most experienced member of the board. Kathy did not feel she has enough knowledge to take on the roll, was there anything that stated the board needed a chairperson or could it be run by co-chairs, John believes that there must be a Chairperson. This person runs the meeting, keeps order and insures everything runs smoothly and procedurally. No where did he think that this person had to be the most experienced of those on the board. Bill felt that there is much more to the workings of the board and the chairperson than John was describing. He definitely did not want the position, has held various positions in the past and feels it is someone else's turn. An example of this was the Miller's; they had 7 different variances that needed to be looked at and when they were approved they still came back to the selectmen very disappointed with the outcome.

Bill stated he would resign if no one was willing to take the position to open a spot for someone outside the board to step up to the position.

Kathy asked if John, being the ex-officio could act as the chairperson, John's answer was he did not think that was possible. He is a part of the board to answer questions that is all.

John continued to reinforce that the Board must remember that all activity/discussion or research on an application must be done at the meetings only; nothing is to be done outside. There is a time when the board needs to look at whether the chairperson is overstepping their bounds by continuing work on an application outside of the meetings.

Bryan had noticed also that it looked as though one person had been doing a large amount of the "work" and the rest of the board was just showing up.

Leigh Callaway spoke saying that discussion outside of the meetings is acceptable but deliberation is not.

Susan did not want to lose Bill and she was more than willing to take on the roll of doing research and felt that Bryan would be as well.

Bill is willing to step up and take on the roll of acting Chairperson for 3 months after that time he will resign and someone else from the Board will need to step in. Susan nominated Bill as Chairperson, Kathy 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Board passed. Bill Sullivan is now acting Chairperson for 3 months with his term ending June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Susan then nominated Kathy as Vice Chairperson, Bryan 2<sup>nd</sup> the Board passed.

Katie Richardson questioned whether or not the vote needed to occur in April as stated in the Zoning Rules. Bill thought that might be true and rescinded the vote stating that the first order of business for the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting would be to vote in Kathy as Vice Chairperson. The term of her position will be for 1 year.

Agenda for the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting:

Voting in of Officers

Application from Malcolm Patten

Susan moved to adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Tamara Butcher