

TOWN OF EAST LYME
ZONING COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 1, 2016
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

Members Present:

Matthew Walker, Chairman
Terence Donovan
Norm Peck
George McPherson
James Liska, Alternate (Sat for Public Hearing)
David McIlhenney, Alternate (Sat for Public Hearing)

Also Present:

Bill Mulholland, Zoning Officer
Rita Franco-Palazzo, Planning Representative
Holly Cheeseman, Ex-Officio

Members Absent:

John Manning
William Dwyer
Peter Lukas, Alternate

FILED

Sept 6 20 16 AT 1:30 AM/PM
William Mulholland, ATC
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Walker called the Public Hearing to order at 7:37 p.m.

Chairman Walker sat Mr. Liska and Mr. McIlhenney as regular members for the Public Hearing and Regular Meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Walker led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

There were no public delegations.

1. **REQUEST FOR A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE EAST LYME ZONING REGULATIONS BY THE EAST LYME ZONING COMMISSION, TO AMEND SECTION 25.3.3-1, PUBLIC NOTICE SIGNS, TO ADD THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH; "NOTWITHSTANDING THE ABOVE SECTION, APPLICANTS FOR ANNUAL SPECIAL PERMIT RENEWALS FOR RESTAURANT OUTDOOR DINING FACILITIES IN CA OR CB ZONES WHERE ALCOHOL IS SERVED SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO POST AN ON PREMISES PUBLIC NOTICE ADVERTISING SIGN".**

Chairman Walker confirmed the legal advertisement ran on this item.

Mr. McPherson read a memo from Mr. Mulholland.

Mr. McPherson read a letter from the Planning Commission.

Mr. McPherson read a letter from Marcy Balint of DEEP.

Mr. McPherson read a letter from SCCOG.

Mr. Mulholland explained this is a Commission generated application. They determined they should delete the requirement for signs for renewals. The signs were burdensome to business owners. This is only for renewals.

Mr. Donovan stated the important word is renewals.

Mr. Mulholland stated a brand new application would need a sign.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Liska stated this helps the businesses.

Motion (1) Mr. McPherson moved to close the Public Hearing.

Seconded by Mr. Donovan.

Motion Passed 6-0.

2. REQUEST FOR A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE EAST LYME ZONING REGULATIONS BY THE EAST LYME ZONING COMMISSION, TO AMEND SECTION 1.27 FARMING (DEFINITION), BY ADDING THE WORD "BEES" AFTER THE WORD POULTRY.

Mr. Donovan stated the Agricultural Commission asked us to add bees to the Regulations. We met with them in June. This Commission is all for the bee population. At the meeting there were no State Best Management Practices available. The Agricultural Commission has since provided them. We have no intention of being negative toward bees. He recommends this be withdrawn at this time. They can then turn this over to the Agricultural Commission to write up with Mr. Mulholland.

Motion (2) Mr. Donovan moved to withdraw the proposed text amendment.

Seconded by Mr. McPherson.

Motion Passed 6-0.

Mr. Mulholland stated since it has been withdrawn there will be no public hearing on this item. He can re-write it with a group to address the issues.

Sue Napiany, 7 Barone Road, Niantic asked them to clarify if they are going to be asking the Agricultural Commission to give the Town the recommended language.

Mr. Donovan stated yes.

Mrs. Napiany asked if other people can help who are interested.

Mr. Donovan stated anyone can get involved. It will be easier for them to write the language than the Zoning Commission.

Tom Kalal, Grassy Hill Road, East Lyme stated the Best Management Practices really need to be looked at.

Mr. Donovan stated the Best Management Practices were just adopted last week.

Mr. Mulholland stated they appreciate the effort everyone took to come out to the meeting, but this is no longer a public hearing. They cannot take any testimony because there is no longer an application. They should save their testimony for when there is an application.

Mr. Donovan stated we cannot take any public comment on this item. There are legal reasons that prevent us from doing so.

Bob Foster, Old Orchard Farm, 22A Scott Road, East Lyme asked when the decision was made to withdraw this item. They should listen to the people who came here.

Mr. Donovan stated the best decision was to withdraw and they will re-address it in the future.

Mr. Mulholland stated we have to do it right. We can frame a regulation, and they want to make sure it is done legally right.

Mark Christensen, Grassy Hill Road, East Lyme stated they will have a sign up list in the foyer; anyone who wants to work with them on this can give them their contact information.

Steve Dinsmore, 57 Chesterfield Road, East Lyme stated he has copies of the Best Management Practices for everyone.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Karen Miller Galbo
Recording Secretary**