

April 1 Bylaw Review Committee Meeting

Item 1 | Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:04 via zoom.

Members present: Chair Dan Lieber, Joseph Pride, Tim Lilley, Ann Santos, Kevin York, Lucy Fox, Katherine Howitt.

Attorney Mark Bobrowski, and several members of the public were also present.

Eric Reid joined the meeting 7:06.

All votes taken via roll call.

Item 2 | Public Engagement

None

Item 3 | Review Minutes: March 18, 2024

Ann motioned to approve the minutes from March 18th, 2024 as presented; Joe seconded the motion. The motion was approved with 6 yes votes, 1 present vote and 1 abstention.

6 yes votes: Joe, Kevin, Tim, Ann, Lucy, Chair Lieber

1 present vote: Eric

1 abstention: Katherine

Item 4 | Review Bylaws Proposed for April 29 Town Meeting

The Committee reviewed the zoning and general bylaws proposed for the April 29th meeting. For each of the zoning bylaws, the Committee discussed whether or not they are consistent with the current recodification efforts.

A.Zoning: MBTA Community Overlay District - by Planning Board

Chair Lieber raised some of the questions surfaced by the bylaw review committee in the last meeting about this. Attorney Bobrowski offered to send the bylaw to an expert (Judy Barret) to get her perspective.

Joe made a motion to make a statement that this proposed bylaw is consistent with our recodification efforts; Ann seconded the motion.

Ann clarified that this statement is just regarding procedural/stylistic matters; we are not taking a stance on the substance of the proposed bylaw.

This motion was unanimously approved.

B.Zoning: MBTA Community Overlay District – by Citizen Petition

Tim made a motion to make a statement that this proposed bylaw is consistent with our recodification efforts; Katherine seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.

C.Zoning: Self Storage Overlay District – by Citizen Petition

There was some discussion about Attorney Bobrowski's preference that overlay districts should not go in the use table; Attorney Bobrowski will send some changes to simplify the use table that we could incorporate during the recodification efforts.

Ann made a motion to make a statement that this proposed bylaw is consistent with our recodification efforts; Lucy seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.

D.Zoning: Cannabis/Marijuana – by Citizen Petition

Ann made a motion to make a statement that this proposed bylaw is consistent with our recodification efforts but it is more limiting than what has been discussed on this topic in our meetings to date; Tim seconded. This motion was approved with 7 yes votes and 1 abstention.

Yes: Joe, Tim, Katherine, Kevin, Ann, Lucy, Chair Leiber

Abstention: Eric

E.General Bylaw: Marijuana – by Citizen Petition

This bylaw would remove the prohibition on the sale of marijuana in Wakefield (as a compliment to the zoning bylaw above that would create a marijuana establishment overlay district to allow marijuana retailers and cultivators by special permit.) The Committee questioned whether Wakefield would need to redo the referendum on this matter in order to continue prohibiting the sale of marijuana in the town, given that Wakefield voted in support of legalizing marijuana in 2016. Attorney Bobrowski will follow up with an answer on this question when he has it, so that we can be prepared to address this question at Town Meeting.

The Committee took no action on this proposed bylaw.

F.General Bylaw: Multifamily Trash Pick-up - by Citizen Petition

The Committee took no action on this proposed bylaw.

G.General Bylaw: Flagpoles - by Citizen Petition

The Committee took no action on this proposed bylaw.

H.General Bylaw: Water / Sewer Billing - by Citizen Petition

The Committee took no action on this proposed bylaw.

Item 5 | Review Zoning Bylaw Recodification Draft 1 (expected focus primarily on Definitions)

This discussion was deferred to April 16th.

Attorney Bobrowski requested for members to indicate to him which of the draft performance standards we think are good or bad ideas in advance of the next meeting. He will collate our responses in advance of the next meeting so we can focus the discussion.

Item 6 | Upcoming Dates

A.Next Meeting(s):

Tuesday, April 16, 7:00 PM

B.Upcoming Holidays:

Lailat al-Qadr - April 5

National Tartan Day - April 6

National Library Workers' Day - April 9

Eid al-Fitr - April 10

Thomas Jefferson's Birthday - April 13

Patriots Day - April 15

Item 7 | Adjournment

Ann made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Eric seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm.

Minutes approved 4/16/2024.