

Town of Turner, Maine
Planning Board Minutes
November 15, 2023

1 **CALL TO ORDER**

Called to order at 6:07 pm by Mr. Bill Bullard, Chairman. Those Members present were, Mr. Bill Bullard, Mr. Scott Abbotts, Kelvin Youland, Eben Shaw and Brent Fanjoy. Those Absent Shirley Twitchell. Mr. Edward Morris joined after the approval of minutes.

2. **VERIFICATION OF QUORUM**

Mr. Bill Bullard stated that there were 5 Board Members in attendance which constitutes a Quorum.

3. **Approval of Planning Board Minutes October 18, 2023.**

Mr. Shaw made a motion to approve the minutes for October 18, 2023 and it was seconded by Mr. Abbotts (4 ayes, 1 abstained)

4. **PUBLIC HEARING:**

None

5. **New Business**

None

6. **Old Business**

LD 2003 Ordinance discussions for the Town of Turner

The Board discussed the changes to the Ordinance and what would be needed to be able to meet the new State of Maine Laws that were passed. They reviewed the Draft document provided from the planner per the last meeting and if there are any additional changes that they would like to see made before scheduling it for Public Hearing.

There will be a Public Hearing on December 20, 2023 at 6:00 pm for the change in Ordinance to meet State standards.

Mass Gathering Ordinance Discussions

The Board reviewed different examples of Mass Gathering Ordinances on what direction the Board should move forward.

Mr. Bullard expressed his concerns on making the ordinance to complicated but also make sure we are not overstepping events that already occur in the Town.

The Board discussed what their options are and who would enforce the same. Mr. Edward Morris questioned if the Board could limit it based on the noise.

There are a few ideas the Board had but there has been no real concern and this conversation is something new with a concern of events.

The State threshold for events is 2,000 people. Mr. Shaw shared his thoughts on Farmington's ordinances and the other ordinances.

The Board discussed that most of the Town's have Police departments and the Town of Turner does not and that the Board should look into using 1,000 people as the Town's threshold.

Mr. Morris questioned on what who would be exempt and who would not be exempt and how that would be handled. He discussed what the Snowmobile Club does for their event and what they need to do to protect the public from harm.

The Board discussed how this Ordinance could make things complicated if it is adjacent to the State's requirements.

Mr. Bullard stated that if the Board wanted to move forward with a proposed ordinance and what they would like to put in place to ensure that they are protecting the Town People but being able to continue to hold current events.

Mr. Shaw gave his input on how he thinks the Board should proceed but not having a Police Department and the capacity with following though with steps will take some time and there are a lot of guidelines and abutter notices. He stated we could put something out there but these has been little attendance in meetings now and will an ordinance benefit the Town.

Mr. Abbotts questioned if the Board could come to the Town during the annual meeting to question if they would like to see something in place.

Mr. Shaw agreed with Mr. Abbotts and that there has not been a request for one.

The Board decided to table this for later where there has not been a request or any events planned.

7. Other Business

Solar Ordinance

Mr. Schaub stated that he has provided information on the Solar Ordinance and that the Board should look into the previous drafted ordinance and have a discussion on the agenda for the next meeting and to be able to move forward from there.

8. REPORTS

None

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fanjoy made a motion for adjournment and it was seconded by Mr. Morris the Board unanimously accepted. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by, Megan L. Ricker, Secretary.