

Bedford Sign Bylaw Committee
October 29, 2013, 7:30 PM
Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Minutes

Attending: Jeff Cohen and Lisa Mustapich
Chris Laskey, Staff

Absent: Karen Kenney, Carol Carlson and Mark Siegenthaler

Jeff Cohen called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. He noted a lack of a quorum of committee members, so a public meeting could not be held. Approving the minutes of the August 29 and September 19 meetings was tabled.

Jeff and Lisa met with Chris Laskey to discuss the committee's presentation at Special Town Meeting. They also discussed a letter Code Enforcement is drafting to inform businesses that the temporary Sign Bylaw exemption period is coming to an end on November 1 and the ramifications of approval or denial.

Jeff will give a committee report to Town Meeting and will forward it to the committee members prior to TM. Lisa will present Articles 3, 5 and 6. Jeff will present Articles 4, 7 and 8. The PowerPoint presentation was reviewed. Jeff will ask Jessica Porter if it's possible for a committee member to operate the laptop displaying the slides.

Chris shared a letter Code Enforcement drafted for businesses in Town. We discussed whether the letter should be mailed to all businesses in Town, or be mailed only to the businesses that are currently using movable freestanding signs. Chris noted the Town's concerns for the expenses associated with a mass mailing (~\$250 +/- in postage); however, a mass-mailing would inform all businesses in Town of the pending Nov 1 rule changes regarding these types of signs and the ongoing process to amend the Sign Bylaw to permit them. Lisa and Jeff agreed, and they believed Karen would also as the Chamber of Commerce liaison that the letter needs to go to all businesses in Town. Chris said he would convey that is the committee's recommendation.

Chris also asked that the Chamber of Commerce help inform businesses that if the movable freestanding sign amendment is approved, his office will be very aggressive in its enforcement efforts moving forward.

Jeff noted that the committee will disband after Town Meeting and that a vote should be taken to act upon this. Members will meet prior to Special Town Meeting to convene a brief public meeting and vote to disband the committee.

Jeff expressed his gratitude to the committee members and everyone involved since January 2012 in the efforts to amend the Sign Bylaw.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Cohen