



Raymond Planning Board
Raymond Broadcast Studio
423 Webbs Mills Road
Minutes
Emergency Meeting
Friday, July 30, 2021
12:00PM

Present: Greg Foster, Chair Robert O'Neill, Vice-Chair Edward Kranich, Kevin Woodbrey and Kyle Bancroft

Absent: Mike D'Arcangelo

Staff: Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary Sandy Fredricks

Others: Town Clerk Sue Look

Call to order: Chair Robert O'Neill called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm; Quorum was declared

New Business

Decision whether to adopt the guidance proposed in email from Town Clerk Sue Look on the topic

Decision regarding mask requirements; if a mask mandate policy is adopted, discuss how it will be enforced

Discuss options of a venue change to allow for social distancing, especially for public hearings

Discuss and decide if a mask mandate policy is adopted, discuss how it will be enforced

Discuss options concerning our August meeting

Old Business

No Old Business

Chair O'Neill opened the discussion regarding the new Remote Meetings Law. Members discussed limitation of new law; change of venue not viable solution; requirements for masks. Bob stated he felt the Board should follow the policy Sue Look presented. Sue stated she did not come up with the Policy, it was put out by MMA; she used that recommended wording and just changed to insert as Town of Raymond Planning Board.

Kevin stated he doesn't feel there is much choice in this, it is exactly what the Legislature put out; it is pretty straight forward. Bob stated it would be silly not to adopt the Remote Policy. Bob

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further stated that we basically have to go back to in-person meetings unless someone has a special situation where they have to do remote, primarily the meetings will be in-person. It is very specific, though. You have to be outside of what's practicable to get back to the meeting. How far away that is is up to interpretation and/or you have to be ill or, the way they interpreted it is, if you had a doctor's note that said that you were more susceptible than others to Covid or whatever, then that would be permissible. But the other piece of this is that so no, there has been no litigation on this yet.

Bob moves to adopt the Remote Meeting Policy for the Planning Board.

Ed seconds.

All in favor? Kyle, Ed, Greg, Kevin & Bob (5/0/0)

The Board next discussed requirement of masks at in-person meetings. Ed would like to see masks be required. Bob stated the options are masks or no masks; change of venue for meeting space. Kevin stated we really can't broadcast from other location that the Broadcast Studio.

Discussions continued with Ed stating he would like masks worn; Greg stated he was opposed to that; we should leave it up to people if they do. Ed stated you can't rely on people's judgment. Kevin stated there is no space to distance, no filtering, and no air circulation in the Studio. Ed stated that even if you are vaccinated, you can still spread disease. Kyle stated he opposed masks we're at a point, in my opinion, that we've gone through it. I think we've seen the complications of trying to get people to follow that and I think that we just need to, for my opinion, try to get back to normal in the way we do business.

Kevin stated it won't make any difference because people won't wear good N95 well fit masks. Bob stated that research showed that even double cloth masks work. Bob stated that because it can still be spread, he doesn't want to bring it home to his grandchildren.

Bob moves to require masks be worn at in-person meetings.

Ed seconds.

All in favor? Kyle – no; Ed – yes; Greg – no; Kevin – yes; Bob – yes. (3/2/0)

Bob stated his other concern was he doesn't want to be in the position of ensuring masks are worn. Don had advised he would ensure a Deputy is present to enforce that during meetings we expect the public.

Bob puts forward we have a Deputy present at meetings with the public.

Discussion: Kevin stated he has a hard time with having law there to enforce it. We can stop meeting and have it another time so no. Kyle stated he agreed with Kevin so no. Greg stated he would think we should try not having a Sheriff and if we have problems, have the Sheriff at the next meeting. Ed stated we should give the alternative of stopping the meeting and maybe not have Sheriff. The Board will not request a Deputy at meetings.

Bob reiterated that a change of venue is not an option.

Bob stated he appreciated MMA guidance. He further reiterated that the Planning Board will require masks be worn at all in-person meetings and if someone won't comply, we will suspend the meeting.

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Sue asked if the Planning Board would like her to write up Policy and put a few statute references in there that gives you the authority to do that. The Board stated yes to Sue. Ed stated we will need a sign for the door stating masks are required.

Bob asked Sandy to be sure to include statement that masks are required on all future Notices.

The Board held a discussion with Kevin regarding resigning. Bob stated he would like Kevin to stay on for the 3 months he is allowed to miss meetings so we can see if and when things change. Ed, Kyle and Greg agree they would like Kevin to stay on. Kevin agreed.

Bob moves to adjourn.

Ed seconds.

All in favor? Kyle, Greg, Kevin, Ed and Bob – yes (5/0/0)

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