



Office of Planning & Codes

Wiscasset Ordinance Review Committee Meeting Notes March 10, 2008

Members Present: Doc Schilke, Pat Barnes, Karl Olson, Jeffrey Hinderliter (Town Planner).

Members Absent: Jackie Lowell, Jill Lorom, Larry Lomison.

1. Meeting Opens at 5:35 PM.

2. Chairman declares there is no quorum. Jeffrey indicates there are some people in the audience to discuss the Nuisance Noise Ordinance. He suggests that we allow the people to offer their thoughts on the ordinance but the ORC cannot take action. The ORC agrees with Jeffrey and allows the people to explain their thoughts.

3. Nuisance Noise Ordinance (6-26-06) Discussion. Public present: Sherri Dunbar, Skip and Judy Taylor. The discussion was associated with noise from the racetrack and include the following comments:

- Jeffrey explains the history of the ordinance and the intent of the standards associated with the racetrack. He states that there were a number of people who wanted to apply no noise standards to the track.
- Noise at the track was ok for awhile then in 2003, the noise dramatically increased.
- During 2003, a petition was circulated to regulate noise and limit the number of racing days. The Selectmen and Town Manager (Larry Cilley) decided something needs to be done.
- Noise is not quite as loud during the past few years, but it is still loud enough to disturb quality of life. Don not want it to go back to the previous level.
- Sheri has a decibel reader and indicated that during races, readings within her home could exceed 90 decibels. Sheri lives approx. 1 mile, as the crow flies, from the track
- Noise levels frequently exceed OSHA safe decibel limits (80 decibels).
- Had a meeting with new owner and discussed noise concerns. Hoping to find some common ground where he would limit the noise.
- Believe there should be more guidelines.
- Would like the ORD to reconsider racetrack exclusions- it deserves more review.
- Maybe there should be a cap on the noise level. Something in place that would prevent the noise from continuing to escalate.
- There are clips on the mufflers that increase the noise. What if these clips were removed?
- Will the regulations apply to noise associated with people who are camping on the site and creating loud noise?
- There have been times they have to leave town because the noise is so loud

- They don't want to prevent the racetrack from operating; they just want the noise reduced.
- The noise can be so loud that you can't go outside, you have to shut your windows and at times you even need to wear ear plugs.

RECOMMENDATION: Because there was no quorum, the ORC will continue this discussion at their next meeting.

4. Meeting closed at 6:15 PM