

WISCASSET ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE
MINUTES, JANUARY 11, 2021
VIA ZOOM

Present: Al Cohen, Jackie Lowell, Chair Karl Olson, Deb Pooler

Absent: Christopher Juntura

1. Call to Order

Chair Karl Olson called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m. via Zoom

2. Approval of Minutes

Deb Pooler moved to approve the minutes of November 9, 2020. Vote 3-0-1 (Cohen abstained)

3. Review of Solar Ordinance

The version which was presented to the committee was a section of the Site Plan article. A stand-alone version will be prepared for the next meeting. Comments from Olson and Juntura will be sent to the secretary.

4. Preliminary Marijuana draft ordinance

A draft of a marijuana ordinance had been sent to the committee members; however, it is incomplete. Without further information on what types of establishments are allowed and in what districts they will be allowed, the committee cannot proceed with drafting an ordinance. It was suggested that the planner the town has contracted with may be able to assist.

5. Update Sign Ordinance

Members will review the sign ordinance and send any recommendations to the secretary. It was pointed out that the current sign ordinance has been impossible to enforce, as an inventory of signs at the time the ordinance was passed would have been necessary and there has never been staff to complete the inventory.

6. Controlling Downtown Sidewalk Ordinance

The committee that has been dealing with beautification of the town will be contacted to help the ORC determine what uses or restrictions on the downtown sidewalks should be included in the ordinance. The Public Works Director has also been contacted regarding uses, restrictions, plowing, etc. that might be necessary to include in the ordinance.

7. Update Noise Ordinance

It wasn't clear what updates were needed in the noise ordinance. It was suggested that there had been complaints about the racetrack or fireworks. The committee will review the ordinance, but without a sound meter and someone to operate it at all hours, a noise ordinance is difficult to enforce.

8. Other Business

None

9. Adjournment

Al Cohen moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m.