



## BELLINGHAM PLANNING BOARD

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10 MECHANIC STREET  
BELLINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 02019  
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### **Meeting Minutes** **Thursday March 12, 2020**

***MEETING LOCATION: ARCAND MEETING ROOM – MUNICIPAL CENTER***

**Present at the Meeting:**

William F. O'Connell Jr. (WFO), Chairman  
Brian T. Salisbury (BTS), Vice Chairman  
Dennis J. Trebino (DJT), Member  
Russell E. Lafond (REL), Member  
Philip M. Devine (PMD), Member  
Elizabeth Berthelette, Associate Member

**Other Officials:**

James S. Kupfer (JSK), Town Planner and Zoning Compliance Officer  
Amy Sutherland, Planning Coordinator

Chairman O'Connell opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

**MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS COMMUNITY FORUM:**

The Town Planner provided a power point presentation on the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness and Hazard Mitigation. The presentation was broken up into four sections: Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program, MVP Workshop Highest Priority Actions, Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and Next Steps. There was an MVP workshop with the Town of Franklin which addressed climate hazards: (inland flooding, extreme heat, extreme cold/winter storms, snow/ice and drought. The workshop results of this meeting were reviewed. The top priority actions which was done in a brainstorming session with the Town of Franklin included emergency sheltering and evacuation, communications, and vulnerable populations, water resources, environment/sustainable Development, etc. Each of the MVP High Priority Actions were then discussed further to come up with action items. For example, work with senior facilities and housing on emergency sheltering and evacuation. The Town of Bellingham high priority actions included 1. Bellingham Schools (town schools should get together to discuss emergency planning) 2. Bellingham DPW Building (replace DPW building) 3. Beaver Management (to mitigate flooding), etc. The plan which will be created will meet FEMA's requirements and make the Town eligible for FEMA mitigation project grants. The plan is developed by Hazard Identification and mapping, Inventory & map critical facilities, Assessment of Risks and Vulnerability, Public Meeting Sessions, Review if existing mitigation, and Plan and Approval by MEMA & FEMA and Town Adoption. The Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness and Hazard Mitigation Planning Public Forum workshop ended at 6:35 pm and the meeting was recessed until 7:00 pm.

**Coronavirus Update:**

Bruce Wilson from the Department of Public Health was at the meeting to provide an update to the Planning Board on the Coronavirus. He indicated that there are updates coming in daily. There is information on the town website along with the state websites. The town is staying proactive in putting whatever measures are necessary to protect the residents of the Town of Bellingham.

**Home Depot Seasonal Good Realignment:**

Representatives of the Home Depot team were present to explain their proposal for realignment of their seasonal goods, sheds and mulch. The plan for relocation was presented to the Board. The Town Planner put a view of the parking area up on the large screen so all representatives could see.

The proposal was to move the sheds to the first row of parking near Ace Moore. There would be pallets placed to block off traffic.

The Planning Board through discussion made the following recommendations/suggestions:

- Concern for pedestrians walking and crossing in this heavily congested area.
- Proposed reconfiguring the mulch in another location.
- The current placement of seasonal and mulch is congested
- Installation of speed bumps.
- Installation of signage.
- Possibly relocation to the tool area.
- Concern is having the sales floor of outside items in the busiest part of the parking lot from Rt 126.

**On a motion made by Brian Salisbury and seconded by Dennis Trebino, the Board voted unanimously to have the Town Planner work with the Home Depot Representatives along with the Building Inspector to come up with a plan to relocate the mulch to another location on site.**

Discussion: None.

**Vote: 5-0 Carried.** (WFO, BTS, DJT, REL, PMD)

**GENERAL BUSINESS:****APPROVAL OF MINUTES:****February 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes:**

**On a motion made by Brian Salisbury and seconded by Philip Devine, the Board voted unanimously to accept the meeting minutes from February 13, 2020.**

**Vote: 5-0 Carried.** (WFO, BTS, DJT, REL, PMD)

**Voucher Report:**

- The March 12, 2020 voucher report was presented.

**ADJOURN:**

**On a motion made by Brian Salisbury, and seconded by Russell Lafond, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm.**

Discussion: None.

**Vote: 5-0 Carried.** (WFO, BTS, DJT, REL, PMD)

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland  
Recording Secretary

**Document List March 12, 2020**

- February 13, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Voucher Report for 3.12.20
- Home Depot Seasonal Goods Realignment plan

Minutes Accepted on: 6-17-20  
(Date)

Amy Sutherland  
(Prepared by: Amy Sutherland)