

**SIGN COMMITTEE  
MINUTES SEPTEMBER 13, 2010  
APPROVED**

**Present:** Jason Kauppi, Chairman; Patrice Garvin, Executive Assistant; Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager  
Also Present: Members of the Sign Bylaw Working Group

*Mr. Haddad called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m.*

**H&V Mill Directional Signs**

Mr. Kauppi expressed concern regarding the lack of a directional sign where Pepperell Road meets Townsend Road and West Main Street. Mr. Kauppi suggested approaching H&V to place a sign. Ms. Garvin stated that she would talk to the DPW Director about the issue.

Ms. Garvin noted that as people turn into AL Prime traffic is becoming hazardous. Mr. Haddad suggested speaking to Michelle Collette. Mr. Haddad also noted that another gas station in town commented on AL Primes price size and inquired about getting one as well.

**SIGN BYLAW [Document 1: Draft Sign ByLaw]**

Mr. Kauppi commented on the good comments that were received at the Public Hearing. Mr. Haddad noted a concerned resident suggestion to have a Land Use staff person on the Sign Committee once the new bylaw is passed. Mr. Russell Burke stated that the Planning Board looks at the sign application. Mr. Kauppi added that a Land Use staff member being placed on the sign committee should not be written into the bylaw and that it was a management issue.

Mr. Kauppi suggested going through the bylaw and expressing any concerns or changes with the group. Mr. Kauppi commented on the need to have maintenance of the signs in town and noted its inclusion in the original bylaw. R. Kauppi also commented on the hurdle of getting the entire ZBA to approve of any sign grievances that are delivered. The group felt that a unanimous vote of the ZBA was acceptable. Mr. Burke commented on illuminations of signs and Mr. Haddad stated it was ok to leave the language as is in the draft bylaw. Mr. Kauppi stated that there were some grammatical corrections that needed to be made.

Mr. Haddad commented on the political signs and if restrictions were a first amendment issue. Ms. Anna Eliot stated that it should be 60 prior to an election in town. Mr. Burke noted that signs should be removed after an election.

Jeannie LaValley stated that under 780CMR120H all signs need a bld permit/ Mr Haddad stated that the town needed to follow the law. Ms. LaValley stated that she would work on some general guidelines. Mr. Stuart Schulman stated that the bylaw should be reviewed by counsel.

*Mr. Haddad moved to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the Sign Bylaw as amended. Mr. Kauppi seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.*

**SIGN PERMIT APPLICATIONS**

Johnsons: Mr. Kauppi presented the application to the Committee [Document 2: Johnson Sign Application]. Mr. Kauppi indicated it was the same sign just different wording.

*Mr. Haddad made a motion to grant the changes to the Johnson Dairy Bar Sign as presented. Mr. Kauppi seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.*

Groton Conservation Trust: Mr. Kauppi presented the application from Richard Mulke [Document 3: GCT Sign Application]. Ms. Garvin asked if they paid their fee, and Mr. Kauppi replied they were exempt.

*M. Haddad moved to approve the Groton Conservation Trust sign, a directional sign at Farmers Row as presented, application dated 9-13-10. Mr. Kauppi seconded the motion. Motion carried with Ms. Garvin Abstaining.*

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**ADJOURN**

*Mr. Haddad moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:55p.m. Mr. Kauppi seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Kauppi, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ respectfully submitted,  
Patrice Garvin  
Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

Date Approved: 10-4-10