

**TOWN OF FREEDOM**  
A **PUBLIC MEETING** of the  
Freedom Planning Board will be held on  
**Tuesday, July 14, 2020**  
at 7:00 p.m.

Due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04 and following the declaration of an emergency by the Chair of the Freedom Planning Board, , this Board is authorized to meet electronically.

***Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to the meeting. The planning board is using the Zoom platform for this electronic meeting. To join the meeting via Zoom, please go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83887488738> and enter the meeting ID 838 8748 8738 (if requested) at the appointed time. If you do not have internet access, please use this phone number: +1 929 205 6099. If anyone wanting to join the meeting has a problem accessing the meeting, please call 603-539-4924 at the time of the meeting.***

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Anne Cunningham. Present are Paul Elie, Bill Elliott, Pam Keith, Jeffrey Towle (joined at 7:05) and Anne Cunningham. Absent are Pail Olzerowicz, Carol McIntire and Melissa Donaldson, Recording Secretary. Anne will take care of the minutes

One item on the agenda—whether to reconsider the decision that the planning board made granting Ms. Worthen a reduced (nine feet depth) deck at the June 18 meeting. This has come up because the deck the board approved has a dimension that is in violation of the building code. You can see from the sketch that Mr. Trepsas made that the measure from the corner of the house to the edge of the deck is 30 inches. Code is 36 inches.

Paul made a motion to reconsider the decision, seconded by Bill Elliott. It has been the planning board's practice to approve things that are in compliance with the building code the town has adopted.

Vote was taken:

Paul—Yes

Bill—Yes

Pam—Yes

Anne—Yes

Anne's sketch shows 33.9 inches—still out of compliance with the building code. We approved the reduced deck saying that the corner angle of the reduced deck would be the same as the angle of the original deck. If the board were to increase the approved deck's outside dimension by one foot, the deck would be complying.

The attorney's letter also mentions the railing. Anne spoke with Dave Senecal, the Freedom Building Inspector. He reported that he would work out the details of the deck with the applicant as part of the building permit application. The railing would be added to the 36-inch code requirement. Jeffrey asked about what the impact of this would be. Anne said that she would be in favor of restricting the deck measurement to the minimum required by code but does not see a way to comply with the building code without allowing a railing. Jeffrey said he is in favor of meeting building codes.

A discussion ensued about the degree of impingement of the neighbor's space for accessing their cottage. Because of the reduction of the depth of the deck from 14 feet to 9 feet, the walkway will be

more open. The result of this discussion was that the board had no alternative to adding one foot and whatever railing is required by code

The attorney also mentioned a two-foot dimension that Anne was not able to determine what this measure refers to. The dimension in front of the door to the home is 4-feet.

Third thing in the attorney's letter is that the applicant wants a larger deck. No one spoke in favor of changing the depth of the deck.

Anne asked if we could agree to change the dimension of the outside wall to be one-foot longer to meet the 36-inch code requirement at the corner of the house. Paul asked if this was the motion. Anne said yes. Jeffrey seconded the motion. Vote was taken:

Paul—Yes

Bill—Yes

Pam—Yes

Jeffrey—Yes

Anne—Yes

Second motion: we direct the building inspector to grant only what is required by the code for any railing that will add to this extension of the deck. Paul seconded the motion. Vote was taken:

Paul—Yes

Bill—Yes

Pam—Yes

Jeffrey—Yes

Anne—Yes

Anne

Jeffrey made a motion to adjourn Paul seconded.

Paul—Yes

Bill—Yes

Pam—Yes

Jeffrey—Yes

Anne—Yes

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm

Minutes prepared by Anne Cunningham