

**TOWN OF HOPKINTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Date: November 1, 2005
MINUTES**

Members Present: F. Eric Sonnett, Chairman; Leonard A. Holden, Vice-Chairman; Ronald M. Clark; Mary C. Pratt; Muriel E. Kramer

Others Present: HCAM Station: Beth Fenier; HopNews: Robert Falcione; MetroWest News: Cathy Flynn; Hopkinton Crier: Michelle Murdock; Department of Revenue: Joseph Markarian and Lydia Hill; Town Clerk: Ann Click; Board of Assessors: Dr. John Duffy; Ed Mills, and Robert Bushway, Principle Assessor; Town Accountant: Heidi Kriger; Charter Commission: Marie Eldridge, Chairman, and Police Chief Thomas Irvin; Brian Morrison; State Rep. Paul Loscocco; State Senator Karen Spilka; Paul Phipps; Robert Phipps; Timothy Kilduff; Joseph Markey; Nancy Peters; Eva Beede; Susan Amendola; Jeff Furber; Andrew Harris; Liisa Jackson; Kathleen Karpe; Heather Kramer; Laura McKenzie; Donato Salvucci; Gail Clifford; Student Government High School Students: Morgan Hegger; Greg Jesanis; Mairead Zaccaro; Cora Mills; Chris Panetta; Selectmen's Office Theodore D. Kozak, Executive Secretary, and Geri Holland, Executive Assistant.

Public Meeting Opened/Move into Executive Session (Room 211)

6:00 p.m. Mr. Sonnett, Chairman, opened the public meeting.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to move into Executive Session for the purpose to discuss litigation. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mrs. Pratt. Mr. Sonnett: yes; Mr. Holden: yes; Mr. Clark: yes; Mrs. Pratt: yes; Mrs. Kramer: yes. Unanimously voted.**

Public Meeting Re-opened/Pledge of Allegiance (Selectmen's Hearing Room)

7:00 p.m. Mr. Sonnett re-opened the public session and invited everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Town warrants and bills were approved for payment.

Selectmen's minutes: October 11, 2005; October 18, 2005; October 18, 2005 (ES)

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve Selectmen's minutes dated October 11, 2005. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mrs. Kramer. Unanimously voted.**

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the Selectmen's minutes dated October 18, 2005. **So moved Mrs. Kramer. Second Mr. Clark. Unanimously voted.** Mr. Holden abstained as he was not present at this meeting.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the Executive Session Selectmen's minutes dated October 18, 2005. **So moved Mrs. Kramer. Second Mr. Clark. Unanimously voted.** Mr. Holden abstained as he was not present at this meeting.

City of Charlemagne's 100th Anniversary Proclamation and Letter to the City's Mayor

Mr. Sonnett said that at the October 11, 2005 Selectmen's meeting, the Board voted to send a letter and Proclamation to the City of Charlemagne to congratulate them on their 100th Anniversary. He said that the Board also requested the Selectmen's Office to prepare a congratulatory letter written in French. Mr. Sonnett invited resident, Therese Birri, who was born and raised in Quebec, to read the letter written in French. After Ms. Birri read the letter, Mr. Sonnett asked her to talk about her background. He thanked Ms. Birri for attending this meeting to read the letter.

Proclamation: Recognition of Veterans

In recognition of the 60th anniversary since the end of World War II and Veteran's Day, November 11th, Mr. Sonnett read a Proclamation honoring all Veteran's who have served in the armed forces and who are presently serving in the armed forces. Mr. Sonnett said that the Board would present the Proclamation at tomorrow evening's Veteran's Dinner.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve for signature a Proclamation that recognizes the 60th anniversary since World War II ended and to give tribute and to remember all veterans who have served in the armed forces and all those veterans who are presently serving in the armed forces. **So moved Mr. Holden. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Community Septic Management Program Bond

Mr. Kozak said that the Community Septic Management Program Bond is a borrowing of \$200,000 for the purpose of financing costs of the Town's community septic management loan program.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve for signature the Community Septic Management Program bond of \$200,000. **So moved Mrs. Kramer. Second Mr. Clark. Unanimously voted.**

Legal Assistance Request: Planning Board

Mr. Sonnett read a legal assistance request for 40 hours of Town Counsel's advice, court representation, and other from the Planning Board that pertains to appeals filed by Ronald Nation and Brian Morrison and Susan Erdman of the Planning Board's decision dated September 30, 2005 to approve the Whitehall Estates/Woodville Woods Open Space and Landscape Preservation Development Concept Plan and Special Permit at 279 Wood Street. Mr. Dourney, Planning Board member, requests to amend the Planning Board's request for 15 hours of use of Town Counsel rather than 40 hours. He added that should the Planning Board need more hours, they would come before the Board to make another request.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the Planning Board's legal assistance request for 15 hours of Town Counsel's advice, court representation, and other that pertains to appeals filed by Ronald Nation and Brian Morrison and Susan Erdman of the Planning Board's decision dated September 30, 2005 to approve the Whitehall Estates/Woodville Woods Open Space and Landscape Preservation Development Concept Plan and Special Permit at 279 Wood Street. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

Financial Management Review: Joseph Markarian and Lydia Hill, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Mr. Sonnett said that at the Board of Selectmen's request, the Department of Revenue (DOR) completed a financial management review of the Town, which took approximately four months. He said Mr. Markarian and Ms. Hill, the DOR's representatives who performed the review, requested to make a presentation with the result of the review.

Mr. Markarian stated that DOR offers to communities across the State to perform an inventory of the Town's financial structure and a measurement of communication between departments and its staff. Mr. Markarian reported that the Town of Hopkinton functions well with a high level of competence from the departments and staff. He commented that the Town is doing a "great job". Mr. Markarian also said that the town does a good job in trying to participate in problems by being "pro-active".

Mr. Markarian then presented recommendations including the creation of a Town Manager position which he believes would be a positive move for the Town. He also talked about the creation of a Charter which is believed to be an important document for the town. He encouraged the Town to give serious consideration of creating a Charter. He commented that a Town Manager could work at the Charter which is the Town road map and would add stability to the town. He said that the town's people could still have confidence in the town even when officials and leader changes. Mr. Markarian also talked about twenty-two other recommendations including the finance director's role, formulizing the budget process, reconsideration of

increasing at Town Meeting the Board of Assessors from a three member board to a five member board, include text of all Town Meeting Articles and their votes in the Town Clerk's minutes, fund a support position and technology plan, and create a technology committee along with other recommendations (see attached report). Mr. Markarian commented that the town works well, and departments know what they are doing.

Mr. Sonnett commented that the review is most passionate about a Town Manager position as well as a Town Charter, and asked Mr. Markarian to talk more about the Town Manager position.

Mr. Markarian said that the Town Manager should have a strong financial background so that they could take over the budget. He also talked about the Town Manager understanding town positions and overseeing evaluations of department heads. He said that a Town Manager position would be money well spent by the town. Mr. Markarian also talked about the Town Manager's position of being active in making decisions on a day to day basis and would move government forward by taking policies that the Board of Selectmen set in conjunction with the School department and execute them. He added that a Town Manager position would feed morale and make employees accountable for doing their job and be judged on it. He also said that this change would be difficult and might require an adjustment period for the town, as the Board of Selectmen's role would change as well as they would not be as involved.

Mr. Sonnett said that Mr. Markarian gave a very thorough description of a Town Manager position. He asked Mr. Kozak to present his comments regarding the review.

Mr. Kozak said that he met with the Charter Commission who asked him to comment about three sections in the Charter Commission's proposal. He responded to the proposal by recommending that the Town Manager's position appoint and oversee the Town Accountant, Director of Municipal Inspections, Town Treasurer/Collector, Finance Director, Human Resource Director, DPW Director, Facilities Director and Principal Assessor. Mr. Kozak also talked about his recommendations regarding the Finance Director having qualifications with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or finance. Mr. Kozak also recommended that the Town Manager appoint the Principal Assessor, negotiate contracts with Department Heads. He also recommended that the Town Manager have a Masters Degree in Public Administration or similar educational experience be listed as "preferred". In regards to a budget schedule, Mr. Kozak stated that this is a more complicated issue and that it may be helpful to have a minimum of specific duties for the budget process. He said that he is presently contacting other neighboring towns to learn about their budget process. Mr. Kozak thanked the Charter Commission for affording him time to present his recommendations.

Mrs. Eldridge, Chairman of the Charter Commission, commented that the Commission did propose that the Town Manager appoint the Principal Assessor. She added that the Commission is re-writing the Finance Director position and is expanding its role. Mrs. Eldridge said that DOR has submitted excellent feedback. She said that the Charter Commission is still making changes to the document. She said that it is not advisable to have a budget process that changes every year. Mr. Kozak concurred, but pointed out that it could change with the change in the environment.

Mrs. Pratt commented about keeping the schedule flexible should there be changes in the environment. In regards to the number of articles on the town warrant, Mrs. Pratt commented that Hopkinton only has one town meeting whereas other town schedule town meetings throughout the year.

Mr. Clark commented that the Charter Commission might like to re-think the Finance Director position, but it sounds like the Commission is thinking this through.

Mr. Markarian said that the DOR doesn't hold a strong position on whether or not the town creates a Finance Director.

Mr. Clark presented other points about the need for the Appropriation Committee to present the budget at town meeting, and that the Charter Commission's recommendation is for the Selectmen to present the budget. He commented that he doesn't have a problem with the Appropriation Committee presenting the

budget. Mr. Markarian said that the Board of Selectmen should have input regarding this. He said he would expect the Town Manager to work very closely with the Board of Selectmen and School Committee in preparing the budget for town meeting.

Mr. Holden asked about the Finance Director's qualifications. Mrs. Eldridge responded that the Commission stayed away from specifics in qualification, as this is the town's Human Resource Department's jurisdiction. She said that it would be easier to change the Town Bylaws than a town Charter.

Mr. Duffy, Board of Assessors, wished to state that the Board of Assessors met this evening and became aware of the change to the Principle Assessor's position being appointed by the Town Manager, and voted to consider the Charter Commission's recommendation.

Mr. Sonnett urged the Charter Commission to look at the recall provision which provides for the recall of elected officials. He stated his personal opinion of not supporting the Charter Commission's recommendation for a recall vote. Mr. Clark and Mr. Holden both concurred with Mr. Sonnett. Mr. Clark takes the position of wanting to support the Charter Commission's proposal, but commented that the Charter needs a lot of work before he could support the Charter proposal at next year's town election.

Mrs. Kramer stated that the Charter Commission has done an admirable job and supports the Charter Commission's stand on the recall vote. Mrs. Kramer stated strong support for the Charter creating a Town Manager position as well as a Finance Director. Mrs. Pratt also supported the recall vote, and commented that recalls are very rarely used, but believes it's good in case it's needed.

Mr. Sonnett thanked Mr. Markarian and Ms. Hill for their presentation.

Proclamation: Paul Phipps Day (11/2/05)

Mr. Sonnett presented to Paul Phipps a Proclamation that recognizes Mr. Phipps' lifetime achievements and considerable contributions to the community. Mr. Sonnett proclaimed November 2, 2005 as Paul Phipps Day. Mr. Phipps received the proclamation and talked about his life and expressed his gratitude to the Town for this recognition.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to proclaim November 2, 2005 as Paul Phipps Day. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

Trails Committee: (7 members; one rep each: Planning Board and School Committee; 5 members at large):

Candidates:

1.) Susan Amendola, 2.) Jeff Furber 3.) Andrew Harris, 4.) Liisa Jackson, 5.) Kathleen Karpe, 6.) Heather Kramer, 7.) Laura McKenzie, and 8.) Donato Salvucci

Mr. Sonnett reviewed the interviewing process saying that candidates would be invited in one at a time to interview with the Board. He said that once a candidate has interviewed, they could join the meeting for the rest of the interviews and discussion. Mr. Sonnett explained that the Board would vote by ballot for the five members at large. He also announced that the Planning Board's representative is Mark Abate, and the School Committee's representative is Nancy Burdick. The Trails Committee candidates then left to wait in Room 211 until they were called upon to interview.

Susan Amendola:

Mr. Sonnett invited Ms. Amendola to give an overview of her background and state her vision for the Trails Committee. Ms. Amendola gave an overview of her background and stated that she has lived in Hopkinton for twenty-four years. She said that she has the time to serve. Ms. Amendola answered the various questions asked by Board members and talked about the development of the trails, connecting the systems that are already in place, maintaining the trails, and looking at other communities that have a trails committee. She said that there is a lot of energy from those that applied for the committee, and that those who were not

appointed to the committee could still work with the Trails Committee. She pointed out that various town groups have also offered to assist such as the Trails Club, Open Space Committee. When Mr. Clark asked if she has decided on goals or plans that the Trails Committee could develop, Ms. Amendola said that the committee's goals or plans could be kept simple and broad. Mr. Clark asked what teamwork skills would be needed for the committee. Ms. Amendola replied teamwork skills should be open-minded, goal oriented, focused, and be willing to research. Ms. Amendola also talked about identifying the uses of the trails such as foot paths and establishes a policy to protect them. When Mr. Holden asked her about ideas for security maintenance, she replied that there should be physical presence as abutters will be concerned. She added that there are volunteers who would be willing to help.

Jeff Furber:

Mr. Sonnett invited Mr. Furber to give an overview of his background and state his vision for the Trails Committee. Mr. Furber gave a brief overview of his background saying that he has lived in town since 1950. Mr. Furber stated that he believes that a trails policy is important for Hopkinton to follow, and pointed out that many of the communities surrounding Hopkinton have established a policy. He suggested contacting these other communities to use their model as a guideline for Hopkinton's trails policy. Mr. Furber said that the Trails Committee needs to obtain input from everyone including landowners that abut the trails. He added that safety issues also need to be discussed. Mr. Furber believes that teamwork skills would require experience from working on a committee. He commented that he has served on Hopkinton's Area Land Trust and Whitehall Association both of which deal with policies. Mr. Furber said that the Towns of Holliston and Milford which abut the Town should be prime town's to contact and gather information to help speed things along. Mrs. Kramer commented that the Trails committee applicants have a lot of enthusiasm, and asked how he pictures using this energy. Mr. Furber replied that the committee could be expanded and gather input from everyone. He added that there is a wealth of volunteerism and that there is all sort of input that should be considered. Mrs. Kramer asked what he thinks the short-term goals and long-term goals are for the Trails Committee. Mr. Furber talked about setting goals and expanding the committee to a much larger group with subcommittees which might take two or three years. He commented that the committee could circumvent a lot of these issues by learning from other towns. Mr. Holden asked what his thoughts are about security maintenance with no budget. Mr. Furber suggested looking towards grant money and pursuing volunteers.

Andrew Harris:

Mr. Sonnett invited Mr. Harris to give an overview of his background and state his vision for the Trails Committee. Mr. Harris said that he has lived in town for five years, and has a personal interest in running. He added that enjoys the outdoors. He believes that his skill in setting public policies would make him a good fit for the committee. Mr. Harris said that the committee would need to make an assessment of what work has been done, address public safety, liability and finances. Mr. Harris said that teamwork skills should include commitment to attending meetings, and getting the work done. His short term and long term vision is a trail system that includes multiple uses. He believes that a trail system would add value to the town making it a more desirable place to live.

Liisa Jackson:

Ms. Jackson gave an overview of her background and said that she has lived in town since 2000. She also stated that she is a member of the Land Use Study Committee. Ms. Jackson envisions identifying the uses of the trails, install signs, and protect the town's liability. In regards to goals and plans for the committee, Ms. Jackson said that the committee should look at other town trail policies, define uses of the trails, address property rights, and expand the trails policy with the expansion of trails. Ms. Jackson would like to see a cross section of people on the committee. She also stressed the importance of teamwork. Mr. Clark asked Ms. Jackson why she would like to serve on both the Hopkinton Trails Group and the Trails Committee. Ms. Jackson responded that both committees work hand in hand. Mrs. Kramer asked how she would capture the energy of the group of interested residents who are interested in the town's trails. Ms. Jackson said that she would organize hikes and hold open meetings for the public. In regards to short term/long term goals, Ms. Jackson would like to have a better maintenance program in place. Mr. Holden asked how she would address security of the trails. Ms. Jackson responded that she would organize volunteers who are willing to help out.

Kathleen Karpe:

Mr. Sonnett invited Ms. Karpe to give an overview of her background and state her vision for the Trails Committee. Ms. Karpe said that she has lived in town for nine years, and before moving to town, her family lived in Arlington where they consistently used the trails. She envisions a broad-based trails policy and would hope to have developed the policies within a year. She believes that the group of those interested in working towards a trails policy is hardworking and enthusiastic. Ms. Karpe believes town trails would benefit the well-being and fitness of children as well as the elderly, and that property values would go up because of organized trails. When Mr. Clark asked what goals and plans that the Trails Committee would work to develop, Ms. Karpe replied that they must be willing to listen to what others have to say and have the ability to work together.

Heather Kramer:

Mr. Sonnett asked Ms. Kramer to give an overview of her background and state what attracted her to the Trails Committee. Ms. Kramer said that she has lived in town for thirteen years, and uses the town's trails a lot. She would like to see the trails maintained and to have access to the trails. Ms. Kramer would like to see the expansion of other trails. Ms. Kramer believes that teamwork skills include the ability to negotiate, to listen to input and have the ability to speak their mind when reaching an agreement. Ms. Kramer would like to expand the committee to help with the upkeep of trails by volunteers such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts etc. She would like to broaden the committee and obtain more community involvement. Her short-term/long-term goals include a lot of education, meetings with abutters to the trails property. She would like to see a trail expansion by the connection of rails to trails program.

Laura McKenzie:

Mr. Sonnett asked Ms. McKenzie to give an overview of her background and state her vision for the Trails Committee. Ms. McKenzie said that she has lived in town for six years, and that she is a personal trainer. She believes that identifying town trails would be a value to the town. Ms. McKenzie believes that the town should establish a clear policy and come up with guidelines such as maintenance etc. She said that once there is a clear policy, there is tremendous resource of volunteers to pull ideas together. In regards to teamwork skills, Ms. McKenzie believes that members should set common goals, and be open to each others ideas.

Donato Salvucci:

Mr. Sonnett asked Mr. Donato to give an overview of his background and state why he would like to serve on the Trails Committee. Mr. Donato said that since he has retired, he is interested in contributing to the community. He said that he served on the original Trails Committee and would like to continue his interest with the town's trails by serving on the committee. Mr. Donato talked about his background as a search and rescue instructor. Mr. Donato said that he would take the original Trails Committee's policy, and expand it. He stated that he has a lot of ideas such as multi-use trails. He feels that committee members should be able to convince abutters of the benefits to having town trails.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to nominate all candidates, Susan Amendola, Mark Jeff Furber, Andrew Harris, Liisa Jackson, Kathleen Karpe, Heather Kramer, Laura McKenzie, and Donato Salvucci for the at large positions on the Trails Committee. **So moved Mr. Holden. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

The Board voted by written ballot, and the votes follow:

Mr. Sonnett: Susan Amendola, Jeff Furber, Andrew Harris, Laura McKenzie, and Donato Salvucci

Mr. Holden: Susan Amendola, Andrew Harris, Kathleen Karpe, Heather Kramer, and Donato Salvucci

Mr. Clark: Andrew Harris, Kathleen Karpe, Heather Kramer, Laura McKenzie, and Donato Salvucci

Mrs. Pratt: Jeff Furber, Andrew Harris, Liisa Jackson, Heather Kramer, and Donato Salvucci

Mrs. Kramer: Jeff Furber, Andrew Harris, Liisa Jackson, Heather Kramer, and Laura McKenzie.

Mr. Sonnett said that Susan Amendola received two votes; Jeff Furber received three votes, Andrew Harris received five votes, Liisa Jackson received two votes; Kathleen Karpe received two votes; Heather Kramer received four votes, Laura McKenzie received three votes, and Donato Salvucci received four votes. Mr. Sonnett announced that Andrew Harris (5), Heather Kramer (4), Donato Salvucci (4), Jeff Furber (3) and Laura McKenzie (3) have a clear majority vote. He said that the Board would re-vote with the tie votes between Susan Amendola, Liisa Jackson, and Kathleen Karpe who all have two votes each.

Mrs. Kramer asked to check her ballot as she believes she voted for Donato Salvucci. After checking the ballots, Mrs. Kramer's ballot did reflect a vote for Mr. Donato rather than Ms. McKenzie. Mr. Sonnett apologized for the error and said that Mr. Donato received (5) votes, and Ms. McKenzie received (2) votes. Therefore, the Board would vote between Ms. Amendola, Ms. Jackson, Ms. Karpe, and Ms. McKenzie all with two votes each.

The Boards votes are as follows:

Mr. Sonnett: Ms. Amendola

Mr. Holden: Ms. Karpe

Mr. Clark: Ms. McKenzie

Mrs. Pratt: Ms. Jackson

Mrs. Kramer: Ms. Jackson

Ms. Jackson received the majority vote with two (2) votes. The Trails Committee at large membership consists of Jeff Furber, Andrew Harris, Liisa Jackson, Heather Kramer, and Donato Salvucci for a one-year term to 2006.

Fruit Street Property Discussions:

Mrs. Pratt stepped off the Board due to conflict of interest being an abutter to the Fruit Street property.

Mr. Sonnett said that Mr. Weismantel submitted a request that the Board of Selectmen approve his withdrawal of his appeal of the Board of Appeals' fee of \$500 for the Fruit Street property appeal. Mr. Sonnett also commented that Richard Macmillan, the Town's previous Fire Chief, wrote a letter dated October 16, 2005 to the Board of Selectmen to express his concern over the Board of Appeals decision to hire Attorney John Fernandez to handle the Fruit Street appeal. Mr. Sonnett read the letter (see attachment). Mr. Macmillan indicated in his letter that Attorney Fernandez was the lawyer in a lawsuit against the Town of Hopkinton vs. Richard J. Macmillan and another in an action that was unjustifiably brought suit against two town officials as individuals. Mr. Macmillan stated that public officials should not be sued personally for performing their duties as employees for the Town of Hopkinton. Mr. Macmillan's letter stated that the Town prevailed in this lawsuit. He also stated his disappointment that his tax money is being used to contract Attorney Fernandez. Mr. Sonnett stated that the Board should rule on Mr. Weismantel's request. The Board clarified Mr. Weismantel's request. Mr. Sonnett entertained the following motion.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to honor Mr. Weismantel's request to disregard his appeal to the Board of Selectmen on the Board of Appeal's decision to request fees.

Mrs. Pratt asked to speak. Mr. Sonnett agreed. Mrs. Pratt stated that the Board might wish to send a copy of Richard Macmillan's letter to all the members of the Board of appeals. The Board agreed.

So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mrs. Kramer. Unanimously voted.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to reverse the Board's vote taken at the October 11, 2005 Selectmen's meeting to transfer \$500.00 from the Legal account to the 53G account. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

Mr. Sonnett said that the Town's consultants, who prepared the Supplementary Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Town's property on Fruit Street, sent a letter of support of the SEIR to the State's Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA), MA Environmental Protection Agency (MEPA) Office, and recommended that the Board of Selectmen also send a letter supporting the SEIR to the State's EOEA. Mr. Sonnett pointed out that the Board of Appeals sent a letter to the State's Executive Office of Environmental Affairs that included several documents such as the August 29, 2004 correspondence between Mr. Shepard, Zoning Enforcement Officer, and Mrs. Kramer regarding zoning issues. Mr. Sonnett noted that the Board of Appeals did not, however, include the letter from Attorney Faiman that offered a different point of view from the Zoning Enforcement Officer. Mr. Shepard had later stated that his opinion letter was not an action needing appeal, as there was no specific project before him. Mr. Sonnett indicated that the Board of Appeals letter presented a one-sided view and by sending this letter to the State, it could jeopardize future zoning decisions. Mr. Clark also recommended sending a letter to the EOEA and made a motion to that affect.

Vote: Mr. Clark motioned to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to sign a letter of support of the SEIR to MEPA, and to request their support of the Fruit Street Development's recommendation of the preferred alternative. Second Mr. Holden.

Mrs. Kramer wished to discuss this further, and motioned to hold a working session to review the Environmental Impact Report page by page. Mr. Sonnett pointed out that Mr. Clark has a motion on the floor. Mr. Sonnett added that residents at Town Meeting voted for a concept plan on Fruit Street, and that each phase of the concept plan would go through its own process. Mrs. Kramer said that she could not support sending a letter of support without an opportunity to discuss the issues more completely.

Mr. Clark amended the vote that the SEIR would serve a wide variety of alternative needs. **Second Mr. Holden. Mr. Sonnett: yes; Mr. Clark: yes; Mr. Holden: yes; Mrs. Kramer: no. So voted.**

Mr. Sonnett recommended requesting Town Counsel, Attorney Faiman, to review the Board of Appeals letter and submit a written opinion of that letter including any implications that might affect future decisions that pertain to zoning issues on the Fruit Street property. Mr. Clark commented that the Board of Appeals has biased themselves by only including certain pieces of information in its letter to the MEPA. Mrs. Kramer commented that she believes that requesting Town Counsel's time to review and submit a written opinion of the Board of Appeals letter is not a good way of spending town funding. Mr. Sonnett disagreed and asked Mr. Kozak to request Town Counsel to submit a written opinion of the Board of Appeals letter.

Mrs. Pratt returned to the Board at this time.

Liaison Reports:

Mrs. Pratt requests the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning issue on the Selectmen's November 15th meeting. This issue provides a revitalized approach to hazard mitigation through pre-disaster mitigation planning which would help the town to reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards.

Mrs. Kramer announced the following events: (11/2) Veteran's Dinner at the Woodville Rod & Gun Club from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.; (11/6) Bugles Across America on the Town Common at 7:15 p.m.; (11/11) Veteran's Day Ceremony, Town Hall; (11/5) Prescription Program at the Senior Center; Scouts Food Drive; (1/6/06) Youth Commission's Youth Summit. Mrs. Kramer also commented about the success of the Youth Commission's Early Release Day that was held at the First Congregational Church with over 80 youths participating.

Readout Mail

Mr. Sonnett read a letter from Bill McGinley, Chairman of the MetroWest Community Health Care Foundation, which asks for assistance to identify a potential candidate who may have an interest in serving as

a member of the Foundation's Board of Trustees. Mr. Sonnett encouraged those that might be interested in serving on the Board, to contact the Selectmen's Office.

Mr. Sonnett read a memo from Stephanie Morey from the Citizen Action Team, a non-profit organization, requesting space for two or three boxes in the Town Hall for the organization's coat drive to assist people affected by Hurricane Katrina. Mr. Sonnett requests the Selectmen's Office to assist the organization with the project.

Use of Town Hall Christmas tree: Project Just Because

Mr. Sonnett read a request from Cherylann Lambert Walsh, President of Project Just Because, Inc., that requests permission to use the Town Hall Christmas Tree to place stars that have children's wishes on them. He said that residents pick a star to purchase a gift for the child. The Board had a discussion regarding the date to assemble the Christmas tree. Mr. Clark stated that he has no objection to the placement of "gift strips" of the stars in the Town Hall before the Thanksgiving holiday, but being a "traditionalist" he is not agreeable to putting the Christmas tree up before the Thanksgiving holiday.

Vote: Mr. Clark motioned to allow Project Just Because to "gift strip" the stars anytime in the Town Hall, but to use the Town Hall Christmas Tree after the Thanksgiving holiday. There were no seconds.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the request from Cherylann Lambert Walsh's for Project Just Because to use the Town Hall Christmas Tree beginning November 15. **So moved Mr. Holden. Second Mrs. Kramer. Mr. Clark voted no. So voted.**

Municipal Work-Off Program: David Adelman

Mr. Sonnett read a memo from Cindy Chesmore, Director of the Senior Center that requests the Board's consideration of approving David Adelman's application for the 2005 Municipal Work-Off Program. Mr. Sonnett talked about the possibility of asking Mr. Adelman to work with the DPW Director with those residents who are non-compliant with the Recycling Program.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to accept David Adelman's Municipal Work-Off Program application. **So moved Mrs. Kramer. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Announce: Town Committee Vacancies

Mr. Sonnett announced the Town Committee vacancies including *Board of Appeals* (Associate member) (1) term to 2006; *Community Preservation Committee* (1) term to 2006; *Elementary Building School Committee* (1) Life of Project; *Land Use Study Committee* (1) Life of Project; *Recycling Committee* (2) terms to 2008 and 2007; *Traffic Study Committee* (1) Life of Project; *Voices for Vision Civic Engagement Committee* (1) term to 2006. Mr. Sonnett said that if anyone would like more information about these vacancies or is interested in applying to a vacancy to either call or submit a letter of interest to the Selectmen's Office.

One Day Wine & Beer License: Hopkinton Historical Society

Mr. Sonnett read a request from Michelle Gates, President of the Hopkinton Historical Society, for a one day beer and wine license for the Society's annual Harvest Dinner scheduled on Friday, November 18, 2005 at St. John's Church's Parish Center from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mr. Sonnett noted that Police Chief Irvin has no objections to the issuance of this license.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the Hopkinton Historical Society's request for a one day beer and wine license for the Society's annual Harvest Dinner scheduled on Friday, November 18, 2005 at St. John's Church's Parish Center from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **So moved Mrs. Pratt. Second Mr. Clark. Unanimously voted.**

Other Areas of Discussion:

Mrs. Kramer commented about the Land Use Study Committee's term being the Life of the Project and asked the Board to consider changing the term to possibly a one-year. Mr. Sonnett said that this was a good point, and for the Board to discuss this at a future meeting.

Mrs. Pratt announced tomorrow evening's Veteran's Dinner at the Woodville Rod & Gun Club at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Holden read a note from Mabel Magee thanking the Board of Selectmen for remembering her 100th Birthday by giving her a Proclamation recognizing her birthday.

Public Meeting Adjourned:

11:30 p.m. Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to adjourn the public meeting. **So moved Mrs. Pratt. Second Mr. Clark. Unanimously voted.**

Respectfully submitted,

Geri Holland
Executive Assistant
Date Approved: