

Hopkinton Zoning Board of Adjustment
Minutes
January 6, 2009

Acting Chairman Toni Gray opened the Hopkinton Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting of Tuesday, January 6, 2009, at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall. Members present: Harold Perkins, John Boatwright and Daniel Rinden.

I. Applications.

Case #: ZO2009-1: NH Sheep & Wool Growers Association Request for a SPECIAL USE PERMIT for use of the Hopkinton Fair Grounds on May 9th and 10th to hold the 33rd Annual Sheep & Wool Festival. The property is located off Kearsarge Avenue, shown on Tax Map Lot: 222-60.

Wayne Welch, President of the New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Association informed the Board of various activities that take place at the Annual Sheep and Wool Festivals. Children are given the opportunity to show their sheep and the event provides education and demonstrations in an effort to promote the sheep and wool industry. As a result of the event, the Association is able to give away four college scholarships.

1. Standards provided by this Ordinance for the particular use permitted by special exception.

"This request is being submitted on behalf of the New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Growers Organization herein after referred to as the NHSW, under subsection 3.8. Non-Fair Uses permitted by Special Use Permit."

2. No hazard to the public or adjacent property on account of potential fire, explosion or release of toxic materials.

"No known hazard."

3. No detriment to property values in the vicinity or change in the essential characteristics of a residential neighborhood on account of the location or scale of buildings and other structures, parking areas, access ways, odor(s), smoke, gas, dust, or other pollutant, noise, glare, heat, vibration, or unsightly outdoor storage of equipment, vehicles or other materials.

"No known or expected."

4. No creation of a traffic safety hazard or a substantial increase in the level of traffic congestion in the vicinity.

"The public traffic will enter the grounds through Blue and Green Gates. The traffic is not anticipated to increase to a level of safety hazard. Average attendance is 1500-2500 people per day."

5. No excessive demand on municipal services, including, but not limited to, water, sewer, waste disposal, police and fire protection, and schools.

"No increase known or expected."

Mr. Jordan advised of his conversation with Police Chief Wheeler in which he had indicated that no police services would be necessary. At this time, Mr. Jordan is waiting for a return call from the Fire Chief.

6. No significant increase of storm water runoff onto adjacent property or streets.

"No increase known or expected."

7. An appropriate location for the proposed use.

"This is an appropriate location for this event as permitted by subsection 3.8."

8. Not affect adversely the health and safety of the residents and others in the area and not be detrimental to the use or development of adjacent or neighboring properties.

"No adverse affect known or expected."

9. In the public interest and in the spirit of the ordinance.

"The event is organized by the volunteer members of the NHSW for the public education and enjoyment. Many activities specifically geared towards youth participants."

There was no one present wishing to provide public testimony.

Mr. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Boatwright, moved to vote on the application as presented. Motion carried unanimously. With four members voting, all four voted in favor (Gray, Perkins, Boatwright and Rinden). The Applicant adequately addressed the standards set forth in paragraph 3.8.6 which included addressing the criteria for a Special Exception set forth in paragraph 15.8.2 of the Zoning Ordinance.

II. Review of the Minutes and Notice of Decision of November 5 and December 2, 2008.

Mr. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Boatwright, moved approval of the November 5, 2008, Minutes and Notice of Decision as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Rinden, moved approval of the December 2, 2008, Minutes and Notice of Decision as corrected (omit John Boatwright's name). Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Adjournment.

With no other business to come before the meeting, motion was made by Mr. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Rinden, to adjourn at 7:25 PM. Motion carried unanimously. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Board is Tuesday, February 3, 2009, at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall.

Karen L. Robertson
Planning/Zoning Director

Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 677:2, any party to the action or proceedings, or any person directly affected thereby, may apply for a rehearing. Application, in writing, must be submitted to the Zoning Board of Adjustment within thirty (30) calendar days beginning the date upon which the Board voted to approve or disapprove the application. Such a request must set forth the grounds on which it is claimed the decision is unlawful or unreasonable. The Board must decide to grant or deny the rehearing within thirty (30) days.