



Town of
North Stonington, CT

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021 - 7:00pm

VIA ZOOM

MINUTES APPROVED ~ MAY 13, 2021

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** Chairman Louis Steinbrecher called the Regular Meeting of the North Stonington Planning & Zoning Commission to order on Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Louis Steinbrecher, Chairman, Wayne Wilkinson, Vice-Chair, Pat Lewis, Secretary, (arrived at 7:05) Mark Leonard, and Ed Learned

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Jennifer Pensa (Alternate) and Robert Kappes (Alternate)

STAFF PRESENT: Planning, Development & Zoning Official Juliet Hodge, and Administrative Assistant Cheryl Konsavitch

2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** None

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

4. **COMMISSION REVIEW:**

A. SPL #21-028 (Site-Plan) Application of Ms Beer Haven LLC, c/o Philipp Baumann, 622 Pendleton Hill Rd., N. Stonington, CT 06359 for site-plan approval for a proposed Farm Nano-Brewery Use to be located & operated within an existing Barn/Out-Bldg. on existing farm for Commercial Beer Sales only. No on-site consumption of beer proposed, on property located at 622 Pendleton HI Rd in an R80 Zone. Tax Map #72, Lot #6436

Chairman Steinbrecher read the application into the record.

Seated: L. Steinbrecher, W. Wilkinson, P. Lewis, E. Learned, M. Leonard

Mr. Philipp Baumann was present for his continued application.

J. Hodge went over her review of the application and stated it complies with the regulations and is consistent with the POCD. P. Baumann is proposing a small farm-brewery (nano-brewery but only 50 barrels a year) with on-site beer sales but no on-site consumption of beer. There will be a small farm store as permitted in the regulations and will be housed in the existing barn along with the designated area for the production of beer. J. Hodge stated the applicant has submitted a complete application and plot plan prepared by a licensed structural engineer that contains all the necessary information to determine compliance with the regulations. The Commission members at their last meeting agreed to permit the submission of a Plot Plan instead of a standard site plan as the site is fully developed and no new structures are proposed.

J. Hodge stated a new 2,500g precast concrete holding tank is proposed to handle the wastewater from the brewery operation and the tank will be pumped every 8 week or as needed.

Chairman Steinbrecher asked if there were any questions or comments from the public pertaining to this application. The following person spoke:

Bob Carlson

MOTION by M. Leonard, SECOND by W. Wilkinson to approve SPL #21-028 (Site-Plan) Application of Ms Beer Haven LLC, c/o Philipp Baumann, 622 Pendleton Hill Rd., N. Stonington, CT 06359 for site-plan approval for a proposed Farm Nano-Brewery Use to be located & operated within an existing Barn/Out-Bldg. on existing farm for Commercial Beer Sales only. No on-site consumption of beer proposed, on property located at 622 Pendleton HI Rd in an R80 Zone. Tax Map #72, Lot #6436, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. 8-24 #21-032 (CT General Statute 8-24 Review), On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, Selectmen Michael Urgo requesting Planning & Zoning Commission review, in accordance with CGS 8-24, on the following item: The Town is seeking to partner with Stand Up For Animals, a non-profit, who would build a facility of approximately 3,500 sq. ft. to house dogs & cats & the Town would maintain the property & pay utilities. The is property located at 163 Wintechog Hill Rd., Tax Map #93, Lot #6737 in an R-80 Zone.

Mike Urgo, 1st Selectman was present for this application and stated representatives from the non-profit Stand Up For Animals presented the idea of a building an animal shelter in North Stonington at a Board of Selectmen's meeting. M. Urgo stated their non-profit is often in a situation where they cannot transport or adopt out animals from another State due to rules and regulations, and have been looking for a partner to find solutions to this. The Town currently uses Stonington's animal shelter and has been looking for solutions to address the lack of an animal shelter in Town. M. Urgo stated they are proposing to build an approximately 3500 square foot building to house dogs and cats. The Town will maintain the property and pay utilities and our Animal Control Officer will handle her normal duties as there will be office space in the new facility.

The Commission asked questions pertaining to access, noise and if the abutting property owners had been notified.

M. Urgo stated they are coming before Planning & Zoning to be certain zoning will approve this before expending resources on the design and construction work. The Board of Selectmen have unanimously supported this initiative and this proposal will go to a Town meeting once more details are known.

Chairman Steinbrecher asked if there were any questions or comments from the public pertaining to this request. The following people spoke:

Brett Mastroanni
Bob Carlson
Shawn Murphy

MOTION y M. Leonard, SECOND by W. Wilkinson to approve 8-24 #21-032 (CT General Statute 8-24 Review), On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, Selectmen Michael Urgo requesting Planning & Zoning Commission review, in accordance with CGS 8-24, on the following item: The Town is seeking to partner with Stand Up For Animals, a non-profit, who would build a facility of approximately 3,500 sq. ft. to house dogs & cats & the Town would maintain the property & pay utilities. The is property located at 163 Wintechog Hill Rd., Tax Map #93, Lot #6737 in an R-80 Zone for the following reasons:

-The existing facility at the Town Transfer Station is inadequate.

-It's a good opportunity to partner with a non-profit in order to pay for the building and it is supported by the POCD.

-It will give our Animal Control Officer a home base and will keep our animals in Town.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **SENIOR PLANNER & ZONING OFFICIAL'S REPORT/ISSUES:** None
6. **PLANNING ISSUES & DISCUSSION:**

Outdoor Dining – J. Hodge stated that the Governor’s Order has been extended and several restaurants along Route 2 would like to keep their outdoor dining and she has been working with them to have them be able to continue it.

Solar Project on Providence-New London Turnpike – J. Hodge stated she is having a hard time finding a soil scientist to walk the property and write a report as they all seem to have a conflict of interest or don’t want to do it, but she will continue to work on that and she will be attending a site-walk for the Boombridge Road solar project on April 14th.

7. **NEW APPLICATIONS:** None

8. **OLD BUSINESS:** None

9. **NEW BUSINESS:**

10. **REVIEW MINUTES:**

Review minutes of Regular Meeting of 04/04/21. The minutes of 03/01/21 were accepted as submitted.

11. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION by M. Leonard, SECOND by E. Learned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Konsavitch

Cheryl Konsavitch, Administrative Assistant
Land Use Office