

**Town of Dresden
Planning Board
P. O. Box 30
Dresden, Maine 04342
Planning Board Minutes for July 07, 2015**

Present - Jeff Pierce (Chair), Hope Douglas and Dan Hanley. George Dorr was on his way from an appointment.

Peter Lincoln (Vice Chair), Linda Biden, and Ken Stewart, Jr. were out of town.

Others present -James Peterson (applicant - Green Valley Farm), Sandy Hunnewell, Shana Hunnewell, Laura Jackson (residents) and Shari Lilly (PB recording secretary).

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p. m beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance. As we do not have a quorum at this time, Jeff told everyone we would only be able to go over the information, but could not do any business until George has arrived. This also means that Item *#1 - Review of Minutes would have to be waived until later in the meeting.

Item #2 - PRELIMINARY REVIEW - APPLICATION - JAMES PETERSON - GREEN VALLEY FARM - 970 RIVER ROAD - Map 11, Lot 12 - Jeff began by introducing a new project brought before the Board by James Peterson - owner of Green Valley Farm located at 970 River Road. He is planning to raise chickens, ducks, turkeys and pigs on his property as well as property he is leasing from Nancy Whatley. Jeff has given out project packets to all members present that include all of the information for Mr. Peterson's project. He then asked Mr. Peterson to give a summary of his project. Mr. Peterson began by providing information on his personal background in agriculture which consisted of having a large greenhouse business and then an organic fruit and vegetable farm; both of which were lost due to financial issues.

His plans now are to raise chickens, ducks, etc. using a system called "tractors" and portable pastures. These are movable and keep the amount of "waste" down, but would also help to fertilize the ground. A "Nutrient Management Plan" must be in place per State of Maine regulations. Mary Thompson is his manager for that. Part of the plan would include inspections by the State to help if there is a disease that he would have to find a place to discard of infected animals. He does have some pigs for breeding and some chickens being kept in a barn in Woolwich until he can bring them to Dresden. Every two (2) years there will need to be a soil test. DEP has been helpful for him. The ducks will be the "Muscovy" brand. Jeff asked if he has talked to IF&W about the ducks. Mr. Peterson said he has and they have told him they are considered a farm bird. Jeff then asked him how many pigs he plans on to which Mr. Peterson said it would be approximately thirty (30) a year, but not all at one time. He will have them once in a while as the demand for a supply will be needed by his butcher which is West Gardiner Beef. The pigs will eventually be in a portable, electric fence that is easy to move. It can also help to keep unwanted animals out. The chickens will be kept for eight (8) weeks. Jeff asked how many he thought he would have at any one time to which Mr. Peterson said

approximately 600 - 700 at any one time. He does have a friend in Woolwich who would let him keep them there. They will be in special pens until November. Then he will be done until about the following spring. The pens will be 8" x 12" (96 sq. ft.) housing about 55 chicks. Mr. Peterson plans to have rotating crops such as winter rye or other forage crop. For the pig area he would put "rape" seed or other grain crops afterwards to put nutrients back into the ground. At this time, he isn't sure about doing the ducks as he had a bad experience with some that he previously had. Jeff said he could put down on paper something like 1000 a year. They would be kept for about twelve (12) weeks. Jeff told him he would need a letter from IF&W indicating they don't have a problem with the raising of Muscovy Ducks. In regard to turkeys, those are more of a holiday bird. They also carry a disease that can affect chickens, so he would have to manage the rotation of the pens. They would also be a twelve (12) week growth. Jeff asked if the disease can affect other animals such as dogs, cats, etc. Mr. Peterson said it is called "Black Neck" and it only affects chickens and turkeys. The pigs can be put in various areas depending on what it is. If they are put in an open area, they will need to be moved every week so it doesn't get too muddy. DEP has said that it depends on if it does the work during the dry weather which is acceptable, but not if it's rainy weather.

Jeff then asked the members if they would prefer to take the project packets home to review so they would be able to have a better understanding at the next meeting. As we have three members absent, the others felt that would be the best thing to do. Then we can set a date for the site walk and public hearing. At this time (7 p.m.), George has arrived so Jeff explained to him what has been talked about; the questions that were asked so as to bring him up to speed. Dan asked if the numbers Mr. Peterson has on the papers are the maximums to which Mr. Peterson said that is what had been discussed. Jeff asked how often they come to inspect. Mr. Peterson said they do it every two (2) years. Also, he likes to know what his soil is every year so he can keep a better hand on what his land may or may not need on a yearly basis so he would test that more often. He has had good comments from different entities about the land, etc. Jeff then asked him to bring copies of his permits (for retail) to the town office on Thursday so they could be distributed to the member packets prior to the next meeting which we can schedule for July 21st. George asked if the animals would all be rotated. Mr. Peterson said they will all be in the "tractor" system which would be moving consistently.

Mr. Peterson has a website set up and hopes to connect with other USDA companies for his products. He could sell frozen meat products and/or small pigs in a retail area. Jeff asked if he has talked to DHHS & Dept. of Agriculture about that. Mr. Peterson said he is only growing them, shipping them to the butcher and then freezes the meats for selling so it doesn't involve DHHS. All the meat is packaged and ready to go. Jeff told Mr. Peterson he will need to have the letter from IF&W for the ducks; if they have any concerns, and the Dept. of Agric. for Food & Quality Assurance. Have them by the Thursday prior to our meeting so copies can be given to the Board members to get them prepared. We will then see him at the meeting on July 21 to review his application and all the information.

As George is now present, we have our necessary quorum to conduct business.

***Item 1 - Review Minutes of July 07, 2015** -Hope made a motion to accept as written; George seconded. Motion carried.

Item 3 - KERRY BRYANT - 18 PENIBAGOS TRAIL - Map 06, Lot 061A - Request for subdivision amendment - Mr. Bryant is not here so Jeff explained that he has requested an amendment to his subdivision in order to give one lot to a family member. He has purchased .67 acres from the town and wants to enlarge the property by taking part of his to add to the new acreage in order to make a 1.25 acre lot. There is no road proposed. This change would make his subdivision different so he would need a new plan. It would also make it a five (5) lot subdivision which would then be considered a "Major Subdivision". Jeff advised him to develop a new map and come to the Board with his new plan. As he isn't here tonight, Jeff thinks he may be attending the next meeting.

Item 4 - Old Business - Public Boat Ramp Update - Jeff reported that the IF&W, NOAA, Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), DEP, Marine Resources & USCG have all signed off on the project. He's just waiting to get a couple of other departments to sign the paperwork. All four (4) of the recognized tribes have been given a chance to weigh in on it. Three of them have done so. DEP has done an internal and so far everything is looking good.

Item 5 - New Business - a.) The property owned by Gloria Goud located just below the Post Office (Village District) has recently been sold to Todd Bolduc. He has asked about having his horse and perhaps other animals in the large field that is part of his property. Town ordinances state they would need a permit from the town(PB). The members all feel they have a very good spot with plenty of room so they think this would be great. Jeff will write a "**Letter of Approval**" to that effect for Mr. Bolduc.

b.) The owner(s) of Dresden Take Out want to sell hard alcohol products. They would need to have approval by the Board. Jeff mentioned that the State says one in a town of 1800 population should be plenty, but should we say they can't. The members all feel they shouldn't tell a business that they can't sell a product. Jeff will write a "**Letter of Approval**" for them.

c.) Election of Officers -The election of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Board Secretary needs to be done at this meeting. Hope nominated Jeff for Chairman; George seconded. Unanimous approval. Hope nominated Peter for Vice Chairman; Dan seconded. So voted by all. Jeff nominated Linda for the Board Secretary (different than the recording secretary position). Hope seconded the motion and the members approved unanimously. Also, Jeff and George will need to be sworn in as their terms will expire at the end of this month. Shari will notify the Town Clerk of those two names.

Item 6 - Other Business - George asked if someone in Shore Land Zoning gets a dock permit from DEP do they need to come to the PB? Jeff said only if the dock will be pinned permanently to the shore.

Item 7 - Adjournment - Motion by Hope, George seconded. Approved by all at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Lilly (recording secretary)