

Planning & Sustainability • City of Northampton

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The Northampton Planning Board

Minutes of Meeting

January 23, 2020

Council Chambers, 212 Main St., Northampton, MA

Members Present:		Time
R	George Kohout, Chair	
R	Alan Verson, Vice Chair	
R	Marissa Elkins	
	Sam Taylor	
R	Euripedes DeOliveira	
R	Christa Grenat	
R	Janna White, Associate Member	
R	David Whitehill, Associate Member	

Staff:

	Planning Director, Wayne Feiden	
R	Assistant Director, Carolyn Misch	

7:00 PM George Kohout opened the public comment. Janet Gross 38 Round Hill Road described her desire for additional plantings between her property and the former Clarke School to screen utility structures on that side of the building.

The Board noted that the project completion will include a pickleball court with screening.

7:00 PM

1. Discussion of Committee Assignments. Members volunteered for 4 subcommittees.
2. Upon nomination by Christa Grenat and second by Alan Verson, the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to appoint George Kohout as Chair.

Upon nomination by Christa Grenat and second by Marissa Elkins, the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to appoint Alan Verson as Vice Chair.

3. George Kohout asked for motion on three sets of minutes (1/9, 12/13, 11/14) . Upon motion by Alan Verson and second by Euripedes DeOliveira, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes.



4. Discussion of two-family form-based code

The Board discussed the merits of the proposed design elements included in the preliminary form based code draft.

David Whitehill noted that it would be important to simplify the code and make a seamless transition between this portion of the zoning and the other existing elements that will remain.

The Board suggested that text and graphics should be simplified to it is easily understood by the public. Standards should not overly restrict options for creating stand-out structures within neighborhoods.

The Board discussed the importance of allowing evolution within neighborhoods as it relates to style, density, massing etc.

8:50 Adjourn.