

SEARSPORT PLANNING BOARD MEETING

Union Hall / Town Office

6:00pm

May 27, 2025

Members Present

Arnaud Lessard, Vice Chair/Acting Chair
Janine Laveway, Secretary
Norris Staples
A.J. Koch

Staff

James Gillway, Acting CEO

Members of the Public Present

Doug Norman, Select Board Chair
Megan Shute, Applicant

1. Call To Order: Arnaud Lessard, Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm
2. Determination of Voting Members for this Meeting: Arnaud Lessard, Norris Staples, A.J. Koch, Jr and Janine Laveway. A quorum is determined
3. Adjustments to the Agenda: None
4. Acceptance of the Agenda: A.J. made a motion to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Norris. Vote: 4-0-0
5. Approval of Minutes: Norris made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2025 Planning Board Meeting as written, seconded by A.J. Vote: 3-0-1 A.J. Abstained
6. Meg and Co Bridal – 33 E. Main Street Sign Application:
A.J. made a motion to open the public hearing at 6:11 pm seconded by Norris. Vote: 4-0-0

Megan Shute requested approval of her sign application.

Application review by the board with A.J. asking about the status of Historic Preservation Commission's decision. Lighting was discussed. James Gillway stated that the lights that are there were existing on the previous tenant's approved sign.

A.J. made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:16 pm, seconded by Janine. Vote: 4-0-0

The planning board determined that this application did not meet the criteria for a Land Use Ordinance Review or Site Plan Review.

A.J. made a motion to approve the sign permit application for Meg and Co Bridal with the condition that the certificate of appropriateness from the Historic Preservation Commission be on file. The Motion was seconded by Norris. Vote: 4-0-0

7. Splendidiferous Sweet Shop 21 E Main Street Meryem Rogan

A.J. Koch made a motion to open the public hearing at 6:20 pm seconded by Janine. Vote: 4-0-0

Application review by the board with A.J. asking about the orientation of the sign and if the existing bracket would be used. James stated they would be using the existing bracket and also that this application has also gone before the Historic Preservation Commission.

A.J. made a motion to close the public hearing at 6.22 pm, seconded by Norris. Vote: 4-0-0

The planning board determined that this application did not meet the criteria for a Land Use Ordinance Review or Site Plan Review.

Janine made a motion to approve the sign permit application for Splendiferous Sweets and Gifts with the condition that the certificate of appropriateness from the Historic Preservation Commission be on file. The motion was seconded by Norris. Vote: 4-0-0

8. Old Business: None

9. New Business:

Review of the application from Sun Dog Solar LLC on behalf of Robert Weiss for the installation of a roof top solar system. The application is complete and will be placed on the agenda for the June 9th Planning Board Meeting. The public notice and letters to abutters will be sent.

Discussion regarding the election of a new board chair. The decision is to place the item on the June 9, 2025 meeting and hold the election if all board members are present.

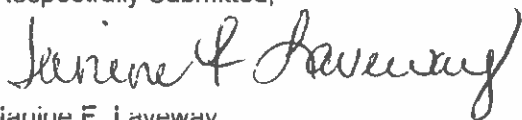
10. Acting Code Enforcement Officers Report: James Gillway, acting CEO reports a very busy two weeks. Inspections and application assistance occurred as well as the issuance of 6 building permits.

He requested that the fee schedule be reviewed for appropriateness. This would go before the Select Board for their review and possible actions. The Penobscot Marine Museum would like to place a 30 ft statute of George the Sardine Man on their Crescent property. James is looking for Planning Board discussion/review. A.J. made a motion that this does not need Planning Board approval and raised his concern that it be placed at least 30 feet back from the edge of Route One in case of structural failure and be secured. Motion was seconded by Janine. Vote: 4-0-0. James will write a letter to the Penobscot Marine Museum stating the project does not require Planning Board Review. The letter will outline the board's concerns.

11.. Public Comment: None

12 Adjourn Meeting: Arnaud made a motion to adjourn at 6:50 pm seconded by A.J. Vote

Respectfully Submitted,



Janine F. Laveway
Board Secretary

Approved 6.9.2025

