



Town of Southwick

Short-Term Rental Subcommittee



MINUTES

March 8, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

**Joint “Hybrid” Meeting of the Short-Term Rental Subcommittee and the Planning Board
via Zoom (Per the Chapter 20 Acts of 2021)**

Written Minutes

(Not verbatim - comments can be heard on recordings available at www.southwickma.org)

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

PLANNING BOARD MEMBER Richard Utzinger

SELECTMAN Doug Moglin

FIRE CHIEF Russell Anderson

DPW DIRECTOR Randy Brown

BUILDING INSPECTOR Kyle Scott

BOARD OF HEALTH DIRECTOR Tom Fitzgerald

RESIDENT Pat Odiorne

TOWN STAFF:

PLANNING BOARD SECRETARY Meghan Lightcap

ABSENT:

LIEUTENANT Rhett Bannish

TOWN PLANNER Jon Goddard

Also attending the meeting were 2 members of the public and several people identified on Zoom.

The joint “hybrid” meeting of the Southwick Planning Board Short Term-Rental Subcommittee was scheduled to take place via Zoom and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Brown. He stated that the meeting was being recorded, asked if anyone else was recording the meeting, and asked if all persons could hear via Zoom.

1. Call Meeting to Order:
2. Roll Call for Attendance of Committee Members.

3. Public Comments. Marcus Phelps of 28 Depot St. said that in the state bylaw draft short-term rentals can only be in single family homes, no apartments. He also said the home must be owner-occupied.
4. Policy Discussion. Mr. Brown discussed the documents he sent to the committee and asked how they felt about them. Mr. Scott said he was still against having these rentals because he was concerned about party houses, trash, complaints and transient traffic. Resident Diane Gale of 5 Point Grove Rd. said that there were only 3 registered with the state in Southwick currently, and she suggested that maybe they should have these rentals register with the state. Resident Jacqueline Senez said that she has a house on the lake that she rents out long term; she is concerned that she will be put into a situation where the tenant moves out.
 - a. Review Bacon Wilson Memo-Massachusetts Short-Term Rental Regulations 2/2/2019
 - b. Review Applicable Mass General Laws
 - c. Review Other Town Bylaws/Policies
 - d. Review division of local services local room occupancy excise FAQ
5. New Business. Mr. Brown discussed creating a survey and asked the members to generate 3-5 questions to add to the survey at the next meeting. Mr. Brown told the committee that the Planning Board is aware that they need to vote on a resident member at their next meeting.
6. Routine Business.
 - a. Approval of 2/8/2022 Minutes

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Anderson and **SECONDED** by Mr. Moglin to approve the Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2022.

The motion passed by majority vote.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Anderson and **SECONDED** by Mr. Moglin to approve the Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2022.

The motion passed by majority vote.
 - b. Next meeting date. April 12, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
7. Meeting adjournment

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Anderson and **SECONDED** by Mr. Utzinger to adjourn the meeting of the Short-Term Rental Subcommittee at 7:46 p.m.

The motion passed by majority vote.

The Next Scheduled Meeting is April 12th, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Lightcap
Planning Board Administrative Assistant