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## Thursday March 7 Planning Board Meeting

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**The Fox and Crow Farm** <thefoxandcrowfarm@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 8 at 9:56 AM

To: Karen Montgomery <kmontgomery@barnstead.org>

Cc: The Fox and Crow Farm <thefoxandcrowfarm@gmail.com>

Karen,

I would like to document some important details from the Planning Board Meeting conducted at Town Hall on Thursday March 7th, 2024. I would also appreciate a phone call when you are available to discuss this email.

This meeting was recorded as well and I would ask that the recording of this meeting remain intact in the event it is needed to recall the meeting discussion.

A recap of previous meeting minutes

Taken from the 12/28/2023 Meeting Minutes:

"Fab Cusson, interested party, feels there is a level of scrutiny. There is a good level of planning that is reasonable. Storm Water management seems excessive. It concerns him to think that he might be subject to the same scrutiny down the road. Roads are mess and should be addressed and Mr. Abbott should help. It seems like the application was not accepted or if it was even complete when it was accepted. He suggested that the planning board should require an individual storm management plan with each building permit. Why would the board not allow more conversation about sprinklers over the cistern? F. Cusson is not confident that D Kerr understood what he was voting on. It was noted that R. Abbott is a former subcontractor and personal friend."

12/29/2023 Site Walk Visit: F. Cusson appeared in person as an "interested party" and specifically stated he was not present as the Building Inspector or representative for the town.

1/4/2024 Taken from Public Meeting Notes:

"F. Cusson, friend, wants to share some information regarding being bias. He states he is not bias. Fab will look into the enforcement of sprinklers. The applicant is stating that he wants it to become a requirement versus the planning board make it requirements. He states that he does not usually attend Planning Board meetings but he sees R. Abbott doing all of the requirements but it enters the realm of this being too much. He thinks the planning board is over analyzing. He thinks this is going to be a great subdivision. He is completely in favor of the subdivision. He disagrees with the engineers thinks they are over analyzing things. Has anyone considered infiltration centers or retention ponds? He questions the ability of the future home owner to maintain drainage. He wants the Planning Board to consider retention

ponds and drainage ditches."

March 7, 2024

At last night's meeting Nancy Carr, chair, read out loud a draft document which was intended to convert into a potential list of conditions for the applicant. This was to prepare our board, the chairman and the applicant for some of the more outstanding items needed and to ensure that the compiled list remained directly in front of the chair during the meeting session. N. Carr read the list of items out loud to the applicant and those who attended in public.

One of the items, #9, on the list was written and read as follows:

"Building Inspections will be conducted by a non-biased, interested, invested or related party to the applicant or by either Epsom or Chichester Building Inspector."

Both Nancy Carr and myself had previously mentioned some of the irrational behavior from Fab Cusson at the public meetings and had already discussed the option to have a different building inspector do the inspections to Karen Montgomery, town administrator. It is not only common practice but customary in other towns. This statement failed to mention Fab Cusson specifically, the Barnstead Building Inspector specifically and also failed to mention that Fab Cusson will not be permitted to conduct his business specifically.

When Public Hearing opened Fab Cusson asked Nancy Carr to read the statement from the draft document about the building inspector out loud again. I believe Nancy Carr failed to stress the "OR" in the statement. Fab immediately increased the tone of his voice and asked Nancy who wrote that. Nancy stated she did. Fab then demanded to know who else was involved with writing it. Nancy pointed to me and I raised my hand and stated that I typed it. Fab stated "I already know you are involved!" and then he proceeded to call on each board member to know their involvement.

Fab then stated that he felt "defamed" and was offended that he would be defamed in public. He stated that he would be contacting his attorney and would be suing Nancy Carr and Erin Stone for defamation. He insisted that Rhonda, recording secretary, write specifically in the meeting notes that "Erin Stone and Nancy Carr defamed him publically". He then abruptly left the building and drove off.

I was then given the opportunity to re-read to the public the statement and elaborated the "OR" in the statement and again reiterated that Fab Cusson and the Barnstead Building Inspector was never named specifically nor defamed or prohibited from conducting business.

This draft document was only created a week before this meeting and was intended to bring discussion to the board and then allow the board to design a list of conditions for the applicant. This was NOT read as a list of conditions nor were any conditions imposed on the applicant at the time of the meeting.

I would like to add that Fab's behavior towards me specifically has been irrational and he has pointed his finger directly at me at other public meetings accusing me of "Bias". I have not had any personal conversations with Fab during or outside of the application or meetings regarding this applicant. He has been outwardly rude, dismissive and unprofessional to me and to the board.

For the record and from my personal and professional opinion, this application has been conducted in a very professional manner and following the Subdivision Regulations for the Town of Barnstead. It has been reviewed and overseen by two professional engineers and all items, plans, reports, surveys and other items requested have been through the engineers professional review and request.

It is known and publicly mentioned that the applicant has worked or continues to work as a subcontractor or employee of Fab and he has stated numerous times that he is an "interested party" to the applicant. He has attended public meetings and stated he is not present as an employee of the town or as the building inspector but rather as an "interested party". "It was noted that R. Abbott is a former subcontractor and personal friend."

Due to the nature of the volatile relationship with Fab Cusson, Town Building Inspector, and the ongoing professional relationship with my husbands building business in town and pending inspections of our own personal projects at our private residence in Barnstead, I would like to proactively remove Fab Cusson from any future inspections for jobs conducted by Red Fox Carpentry or our personal home projects. We would respectfully request inspections conducted by the State of New Hampshire or other towns inspectors. I am concerned about retaliation or unprofessional scrutiny due to the nature of Fab's behavior.

Thank you for your time. I would like for this to be recorded as my official statement regarding the events that took place on March 7th 2024.

~ Erin Stone



Erin Stone, Owner  
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