Minutes February 13, 2019
Meeting of the Planning Board

In attendance:
Larry Gadd, Charlie Ketchen, Shirley Mueller, Mort Josel, Alexandra Glover

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm

Mort made a motion to approve the minutes, as amended, of the December 12th meeting. The motion carried; the minutes were approved.

The focus of this meeting was the continuing effort to amend, update, rewrite, refine, organize, consolidate and streamline the zoning bylaws.

Hunting bylaw: it was agreed that Sheffield has a bylaw that is very close to the bylaw Alford should have. There is a need to resolve the question of who would enforce fines if they are levied, i.e., the State Police, the Alford Chief of Police? Hunters would be fined if they did not obtain permission from the landowner (should they be hunting on private property). The current bylaw addresses hunting, not target shooting, which should be considered. Charlie suggested that signs be posted at all 10 entrances into the Town of Alford (as they are posted at all entrances into the Town of Sheffield) to advise visitors of the hunting law.

Alex made a motion to refer to the Selectmen a proposed hunting general bylaw, including a recommendation to post the aforementioned signs and information detailing ways to contact homeowners (for permission to hunt on their property). A vote was taken; the motion carried. Charlie, as a Selectman, will bring it to the next Select Board meeting.

Drones: the consensus is that drones are a general bylaw item, not a zoning bylaw matter, so it is the responsibility of the Select Board to act. It was also agreed that any action on a bylaw re: drones should be postponed until after June 30, when a new Town Counsel is in place.

Airbnb (and similar): what does Alford want to allow re: short term rentals? There are many considerations and questions, i.e., limit occupancy, tax, size, fines, interior lighting, septic system based on 2 occupants per bedroom?

Alex made a motion to adjourn. The motion carried; the meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Kahan