

Town of Burke
Planning Commission
Working Meeting
March 30, 2011

Visitors: See sign in sheet

Members present: Al Duey, Carlos Bean, Alan Sanderson, Candace Dane, Lynn Welch, Dave Ormiston

Al opened meeting, Lynn read the letter from the Willey's (See attached) who were out of town.

Below are some of the concerns and comments on Vendors.

Jessica Simpson and Alyssa Doolittle do gardening at the Inn at Mountain View . They sell fruits and vegetables and baked goods during the summer. One year they sold at Jessica's home on Belden Hill. Last year they got permission from the Burke Mountain club house to sell on their yard. They would like to continue.

Bill Quirk is concerned about tractor trailers pulling up close to East Burke Sports and selling bikes. That could hurt the business. He would like to see them maybe at the end of town.

Doug Clarner and Vince Jacob (owner of EB Sports) also don't want them hurting the other businesses, but think it should be allowed. A fee should be charged and a permit fee. We also should be able to walk over to a vendor and tell them they can't be selling a certain item, if it is hurting local business owners.

We should limit the number of vendors. We need to look at safety issue of where they will be located. They should have permits from the state.

Charlie Chapman doesn't want to see an ice cream vendor next to his shop. This would be a conflict of interest.

Al asked how people would feel about someone selling jewelry. Linda Broadwater asked how can you specify what is being sold.

Charlie asked why it is in the bylaws that if something is not permitted then you can't do it. Al pointed out that a lot of towns do this.

Herm felt the town would be opening a Pandora box. Burke Festival has vendors. People have yard sales.

Reality is that these are a weekend thing for now.

Joan Harlowe concerned about littering. We don't need these on the trails.

Tim Tinrey feels that when people come to bike, they do just that. They are not looking for a vendor on the trails.

Lynn Welch thinks the ball fields would be the ideal place for a vendor. A lot of people and families come to watch and play.

Linda Broadwater thinks that the vendors should go to the DRB for a conditional use permit.

Al read part of Derby's ordinance. Farmers Markets are exempt. Landowners are exempt. The zoning administrator is the one to look into the applications.

Doug Clarner feels the DRB is not the place for the vendors to go for approval. We should allow a few. Either the Selectboard approve or the Zoning Administrator. Start in May thru Oct.

Nelson Charron feels that a few vendors should not hurt the area business.

Burke Mountain Club House is not interested in having vendors.

Carol asked if Farmers markets could set up at the Community Center. Sam felt that location is important and exposure, which this doesn't have.

Sam would like to 3 to 5 vendors to start, with a small fee.

Charlie Chapman agrees with needing a permit and a fee should be charged.

If it doesn't work, then people can complain to Selectman.

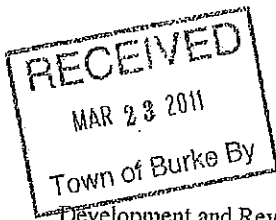
At the April 14, 2011 planning meeting, the board will work on this and come up with something.

Al stated that the town has received another grant. It is called the East Burke Transportation Grant.

No other questions, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Hackett-Corey
Planning Commission Secretary



PO Box 186
East Burke, Vermont 05832
March 23, 2011

Development and Review Board/ Selectmen:

In reading the latest Caledonian Record article "Burke Hot Dog Stand Concerns Some", we decided to voice our concerns, as we will be out of town on March 30th and unable to attend the meeting being called to discuss a vendor ordinance.

We totally agree with Joan Harlowe's concern, as stated in this article. There are plenty of stores, restaurants, and markets in both East and West Burke who pay property taxes to the town of Burke, who employ many Burke citizens, and who make their living on selling food items. These places of business carry liability insurance and are inspected regularly by the Department of Health to ensure the safety of their product. Therefore, we do not see the need for part-time food vendors, who do not pay property taxes, who do not employ many Burke residents, and who are not inspected regularly by the state Dept. of Health, and may not carry liability insurance. If one is allowed, all those requesting to set up must be allowed. As Mr. Sanderson so aptly put it, "one dude might not do much damage", but five, ten, or twenty dudes could put some of our Burke businesses out of business, and create a carnival atmosphere.

If part-time food vendors are allowed on Burke properties, so as not to discriminate, we feel that all property owners allowing food vendors on their land for more than two days should be required to file a change of use permit, have proper liability insurance coverage, and be licensed by the Vermont Dept. of Health, as all food related business owners in this town are required to do.

An exception can be made to this ordinance when there is an event being sponsored by a business or organization, such as The Sled Dog Races, or The Burke Fall Festival, as long as the sponsoring organization or business holds the liability insurance covering the event, approves the vendor, and the vendor sets up at a location approved by the sponsors of the event.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine and George Willy

cc: Select Board