

Town of Nelson
Selectmen's Meeting 3:00 PM

July 24, 2020

Executive Board Attending: David Upton, Gary Robinson, Maury Collins, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Special Note: Meeting was held outside in front of the Town Office

Others attending: D. Kidd, M. Cornog

At 3:00 PM David Upton opened the July 24, 2020 meeting of the Nelson Select Board.

● Following a review of submitted plans that seem to be missing a few dimensions, David made a motion to table any further discussion of a Building Permit Application until more information can be gathered from the applicant (J. Cucchi).

Gary seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● Following a brief review of HB1129 which allows for an alternate form of Town Meeting to be conducted in multiple stages with 2 "Zoom" meetings spaced to allow for written questions and comments to be sent to the Town Office and then voting on each article by written Ballot which would be mailed to registered voters. These ballots would then be deposited by the voter on the day of Town Meeting by driving by for check-in and deposit of their ballot.

Following the explanation of HB1129, Maury made a motion to hold a regular Town Meeting outside in a tent on the common.

Discussion ensued as David pointed out the concerns over large group gatherings during this time when a serious pandemic could put all participants at risk.

D. Kidd and M. Cornog voiced their concerns that the usual Town Meeting democracy would be lost to many who may not be able to participate in a "Zoom" meeting and also expressed concern that amendments could only be made by the Governing Body.

Gary, while concerned over the large group gathering also believes that many may not be able to use "Zoom" and some may not have computers at all. He expressed concern that the lack of direct participation, even during these times, would not meet the approval of many voters. He stated that he would like to see the meeting happen in the open air and seconded Maury's motion.

The motion passed 2-1.

● With nothing further, David made a motion to adjourn.

Maury seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

3:55 PM Meeting Adjourned.

For July 24, 2020

David Upton, Chair

Maury Collins, Selectman

Gary Robinson, Selectman