

TOWN OF BELMONT
PLANNING BOARD

MEETING MINUTES
August 10, 2011

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8:30 a.m. Meeting called to order.

Attendance: Sami Baghdady, Chair; Michael Battista, Andres Rojas, Joseph DeStefano;
Angelo Firenze, Board of Selectmen Liaison

Absent: Charles Clark; Karl Haglund, Associate Member

The Board engaged in a discussion on its staffing and support by Town employees. The Board focused on the recent actions of Mr. Jay Szklut, Planning and Economic Development Manager, to pressure the Board to change decisions it made which narrowed the scope of the proposed zoning of South Pleasant Street. Sami Baghdady stated that he did not feel confident bringing a zoning by-law on South Pleasant Street to the Fall Town Meeting, due to Mr. Szklut's memorandum criticizing the Board's decisions. The Board felt that Mr. Szklut was more concerned with his role as Economic Development Manager, at the expense of his role as Planner supporting the Planning Board. As such, the Board concluded that Mr. Szklut is not providing the Planning Board with the proper support.

Moved by Mr. Rojas that Mr. Szklut shall no longer participate as staff in the business of the Planning Board.

Seconded by Mr. Battista.

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board instructed the Chair to send a letter to the Town Administrator and the Board of Selectmen advising them of the Planning Board's decision to no longer work with Mr. Szklut.

9:07 a.m. – Meeting Adjourned

List of Documents presented: None.