

ACWORTH PLANNING BOARD MEETING: April 27, 2026 6:30PM — Minutes - APPROVED

PB Present: Steve Murray, Dean Gowen, Brian St. Pierre, Mark Goodwin, Katy Haas (AA, BOS)

PB Absent: Rob Vogel, Frank Emig

Public Present: Wendell & Linda Holbrook, John Mattson, Linda Christie, and Cory Keefe of NHEC.

Meeting called to order at 6:33PM

BS motions to approve March 24, 2026 PB Meeting Minutes, DG seconds, approved.

Driveway Permit, Holbrook, 166 Forest Rd, Map 258/016 to access pasture. Will need a culvert, hence the driveway permit. DG moves to accept, contingent on HWY approval, BS seconds, approved.

Driveway Permit, Bascom, Charlestown Rd, Map 220/9. Discussion to clarify location on permit. BS moves to accept, contingent on HWY approval, DG seconds, approved.

Public Hearing:

Christie, minor subdivision. Opened at 6:45. No abutters present. LC has not yet gotten driveway permits because she is unsure yet what the final use and plan may come to. Linda had mylar. Closed at 6:50.

DG moves to approve Christie subdivision, of Aug. 28, 2025 drawing 3646, seconds by BS, approved.

The Select Board has heard from ConCom about solar farms and data centers, and recommends PB consider these during non-residential plan review.

SM hopes PB can clarify residential zoning specific to off-grid structures, and suggests developing ordinances soon. SM mentions State level changes regarding septic enforcement to be aware of.

Public Hearing:

Relating to NHEC Cutting on Scenic Roads on the Connecticut Heights, Gates Mtn., Grout Hill, Lynn Hill and Nye Roads. Open at 7:05PM with Cory Keefe from NHEC. RV had looked at trees. CK says 60% of trees are ash, all trees have defects except for 7, which are all within a foot of lines. Much of the work is done with a bucket truck, occasionally a crane. Skidders and climbers used as needed in the woods. The brush will be chipped, logs stay on site. If chips are near a house, they will be trucked out. There is a healthy, 20" maple on Grout Hill Rd, tapped, within a foot of the power line; the owner has been notified, but CK plans to speak with them about the tree specifically re. safety concerns, before any cutting.

BS moves to approve NHEC Scenic Rd cutting plan pending discussion with owner of 20" maple on Grout Hill, seconds by DG, approved.

SM nominates John Mattson to be a PB alternate, MG seconds, approved.

SM wants to wait for RV to discuss ordinances, but will create a draft re. septic and water use in Lake District. DG suggests looking at Alstead, MG suggests looking at upper-valley towns like Enfield. Discussion of ordinance time-line ahead of Town Meeting, and making a list next PB meeting. MG suggests a topic per meeting to delve into for each of the coming months.

New rules from the state may help shape and inform both new and current ordinances.

Discussion of updating rule for driveway permitting and follow-up from Highway, providing space on the application for HWY remarks.

MG motions to adjourn at 7:50. Next meeting TUESDAY May 26th.