



Town of Wilton, NH Zoning Board of Adjustment MINUTES

Masks are requested to be worn at all Town of Wilton ZBA meetings.

Tuesday, May 21, 2026 Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting

Board Members' Present: Neil Faiman, *Chairperson*; Joanna K. Eckstrom, *Vice-chairperson*; Jeff Stone; Judith Klinghoffer; Linda Jennings; Peg Duggan, *Alternate*

Board Members Absent: n/a

Board Clerk: Caryn Case

Attendees: Faby Gagne; Luc Sirois

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MINUTES

(Minutes were produced by Caryn Case, Board Clerk.)

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Faiman called the meeting to order 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2026. He stated that wearing masks were appreciated as some Board members are or have family who are at elevated risk if they were to contract covid or other diseases.

2. Board Introductions

Chairperson Faiman introduced and identified the capacity each member would serve for the meeting. Jeff Stone, Joanna Eckstrom, Linda Jennings, Neil Faiman, Board Members, and Peg Duggan Alternate Board Members sitting on the discussion. Judith Klinghoffer, Board Member, will participate in the discussion but will not vote on the matter.

3. OPEN Meeting

Case #06/09/2026-01, Kenton Blagbrough, as Trustee of the Blagbrough Family Revocable Trust; and

Case #06/09/2026-02, Howard A. Preston, as Trustee of the Preston Revocable Trust

Kenton Blagbrough, as Trustee of the Blagbrough Family Revocable Trust, Tax Map A Lot 022, 293 Burton Highway, and Howard A Preston, as Trustee of the Preston Revocable Trust, Tax Map A Lot 029, 21 Frye Mill Road, have submitted applications for Request for a Rehearing regarding the Special Exception granted to permit a home occupation on the real property located on Tax Map A Lot 030, said home occupation is to host Fiber Art Workshops, Case No. 03/09/2026-01, Faby Gagné and Luc Sirois, Tax Map A Lots 021-01 and Tax Map A Lot 030, 325 Burton Highway.

Chairperson Faiman open the meeting by reading the Public Notice. He then read from a prepared statement summarized as follows:

Chairperson Faiman said that on April 12, 2026, the Zoning Board of Adjustment granted a Special exception to Faby Gagne and Luc Sirois under section 6.6.1 of the Wilton Zoning Ordinance, to allow fiber arts workshop as a home occupation on Tax Map A Lot 030, on Stiles Farm Road.

He said Abutters, Kenton Blagbrough, as Trustee of the Blagbrough Family Realty Trust, Tax Map A Lot 022, and Howard Preston, as Trustee of the Preston Revocable Trust, Tax Map A Lot 029, had submitted requests asking that the Zoning Board of Adjustment hold a rehearing of that decision. He stated that this was the purpose of the meeting to consider these requests and decide whether to hold a rehearing.

At this point, Chairperson Faiman stated the meeting was a Public MEETING and not a Public HEARING to which no public testimony was allowed. He said the Board alone will discuss the merit of the rehearing requests and decide whether to grant a rehearing based on the written requests and the record of the case. He made it clear that any decision made that evening will not be on the merits of the application for Special Exception. He said that if a decision is made to grant the rehearing, then a new hearing would be scheduled on the application, and if a decision is made to not grant a rehearing then, the Zoning Board of Adjustment is no longer involved with the case and any future action would be in Superior Court or before the Housing Appeals Board.

With that shared, Chairperson Faiman asked the Board Members to confirm that they had received, read, and reviewed the two (2) requests for rehearing. All sitting Board Members stated that they had.

Chairperson Faiman said one of the requests for rehearing alleges that, during the April 12, 2026, Public Hearing he had demonstrated a bias against Mr. Blagbrough and that he should therefore recuse himself from the case. Chairperson Faiman stated he did not believe he demonstrated such bias nor acted in a way

a reasonable person would interpret as biased. However, he asked the Board Members for their opinion on the matter. Vice-chairperson Eckstrom said she did not find any problem with how Chairman Faiman has handled the case. L Jennings concurred. J Stone stated no bias was assumed. P Duggan stated that Chairman Faiman has always demonstrated impartiality. In response, Chairperson Faiman declined to recuse himself from the case.

Chairperson Faiman proceeded by asking Board Members if anyone believed that there is some reason the Board ought to grant a rehearing of the decision. L Jennings said she believed the Notice of Decision did not include specific findings of fact and made a motion.

L Jennings made a MOTION to schedule for rehearing Case No 03/09/2026-01, Faby Gagne and Luc Sirois, relative to the fiber arts workshops as a home occupation, because the Notice of Decision did not include specific findings of fact.

JK Eckstrom SECONDED the motion.

There was further **DISCUSSION**: J Stone wanted to make clear that the request for rehearing was specific to the portion of the application relative to fiber arts workshops. Chairperson Faiman confirmed it was. Vice-chairperson Eckstrom asked if new issues could be raised. Chairperson Faiman said the rehearing would be treated like a brand-new case, only that the Board would already have some background on it. He added that all parties would be welcome to provide any additional relevant testimony or documents at or before the rehearing.

ROLL CALL Vote:	L Jennings	aye
	P Duggan	aye
	J Stone	aye
	JK Eckstrom	aye
	N Faiman	aye

Motion was CARRIED. 5/0/0

After consulting the Board, Chairperson Faiman said the rehearing would be scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 7 p.m. He said the parties requesting the rehearing would be responsible for the cost of proper noticing, and that fees for such may be split between the two requestors.

4. Call to Adjourn

J Klinghoffer made a MOTION to adjourn at 7:12 p.m.

L Jennings SECONDED the motion.

There was further **DISCUSSION**: P Duggan shared a document¹ with the Board regarding the evaluation of Conflict of Interest. Chairperson Faiman said it was an appropriate summary to remind Board Members before each case. Vice-chairperson Eckstrom wanted to adopt the document into the Rules of Procedure.

VOICE Vote: ayes 5
nays 0
abstentions 0
Motion was CARRIED. 5/0/0

APPROVED _____

¹ 1) Conflict-of-Interest Checklist