



# Dummerston Development Review Board December Hearing - Dec 17, 2024

## Provisional Minutes

### Meeting Information

<b>Event name</b>	Dummerston Development Review Board December Hearing
<b>Time</b>	Dec 17, 2024, 05:44 PM - 06:23 PM (EST)
<b>Participants</b>	Alan McBean (DRB, chair), Chad Farnum (DRB), Cami Elliott (DRB), Peter Doubleday (DRB), Roger Jasaitis (ZA), Billie Slade (Applicant), Kristina Naylor

### Meeting open at 6 pm

The DRB discussed the November minutes and approved with a minor correction. The ZA presented two applications for the January hearing. The site visit time and date was set at 10am on January 18, 2025, and 6pm on January 21, 2025 for the hearing.

### Site Visit Discussion

Site Visit participants: Chad Farnum (DRB), Cami Elliott (DRB), Roger Jasaitis (ZA), Patty Walior (DRB), Cathy Martin (Applicant)

DRB discussed the site visit went smoothly, with Cathy Martin (Applicant) present. Chad gave a brief description of the fence surrounding the property and parking spaces within the driveway.

### Family Childcare Program and Zoning

Alan read the permit notice and read the oath for those wishing to give testimony. Billie Slade (Applicant) discussed her experience with family childcare, highlighting her 44 years of work in the field and her unique situation of not needing a zoning variant until recently. She explained that her program, which caters to 6 preschoolers and 4 after-schoolers, operates on a 15-minute slot system for pick-ups and drop-offs to avoid congestion and chaos. Billie Slade also mentioned her positive interactions with the neighborhood and the state licensing process. She expressed concern about a zoning permit requirement for family childcare programs, which she believes was not the original intent of the bylaws. Billie Slade also shared her plans to continue her



# *Town of Dummerston*

1523 Middle Road, East Dummerston, Vermont 05346

nature-based program, which has been accredited, and her hope to offer this service for a couple more years before retiring.

Cami Elliott asked if there was any signage or lighting on the site.

Billie stated there was a small sign on the post at the end of the driveway and two exterior lights. Billie asked if she needed a sign. Roger said no.

Alan McBean asked how many vehicle trips would occur each day.

Billie said up to 6 staggered vehicles at drop off and pick up, but some of the children are siblings so typically there are fewer trips per day.

Chad Farnum asked what is the ratio of teachers to children and if the teachers were just Billie and Cathy or any other employees.

Billie clarified that the ratio of teachers to children is 2 to 3, and there are no plans to hire additional employees. She stated she has a two-year waiting list.

Seeing no other questions or comments the meeting was closed at 6:20 pm

Respectfully submitted

Chad Farnum