TOWN OF ACUSHNET

MASSACHUSETTS



OFFICE OF THE PLANNING BOARD

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Acushnet Planning Commission Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes for August 10, 2023

Open:

6:00pm

Adjourn:

6:50pm

Present:

Mark François, Chairman

Rick Ellis, Vice Chairman Bryan Deschamps, Member Steve Boucher, Member

Absent:

Dave Davignon, Member

Issue:

The Vice Chairman welcomes those in attendance and makes the media notification

Issue:

A motion is made to open the Planning Board meeting.

So moved: B. Deschamps

Second: R. Ellis

Vote was 4-0 (1 abstention)

Issue:

The Chairman asks the Board Members to introduce themselves

Issue:

A motion is made to accept the June 15, 2023 meeting minutes.

So moved: B. Deschamps

Second: R. Ellis

Vote was 4-0 (One abstention)

DISCUSSION/OTHER TOPICS:

A. SRPEDD presentation update

The Chairman asks the SRPEDD representative to introduce himself and explain it's role in local and State Planning. Bill is here to present. He is the Assistant Director of Planning at SRPEDD. Bill explains his purpose is to help local communities in three main areas of Planning; Comprehensive Planning, Transportation and Environment and they also do regional planning. He is here to present the PDA-PPA 2024 Update for Community Priority Areas of Regional significance. Bill reviewed the Priority Development Areas (PDA) and Priority Protection Areas (PPA). Bill reviewed the project timelines. Mark F. states that the Town Administrator has started the process and is looking to engage the various Town Boards to begin workshops. The Board discussed amongst themselves the Priority Development Areas and the challenges in those areas. It was noted that Water/Sewer extensions are needed for economic and housing expansion, including

over-55 housing. The Board looks forward to the upcoming community workshops to better understand opportunities that may be feasible.

B. Form E, Partial Covenant Release, Definitive Subdivision Plan entitled Perry Hill Estates, off Perry Hill Road in Acushnet MA.

The Chairman relinquished the meeting to the Vice Chairman for this portion of the meeting. The Vice Chairman notes that the Chairman has recused himself from this topic because the Chairman owns the property being reviewed. The Vice Chair read a letter from the Director of the Town DPW which states the work done on the property has been reviewed and approved per the plan. The property owner notes that he has one lot still under a covenant with the Town and wishes to release that last remaining lot to finish the three-lot subdivision.

Issue:

A motion is made to release the last lot from the covenant at 301 Perry Hill Road.

So moved: S. Boucher Second: B. Deschamps

Vote was 3-0 (one abstention and one recusal)

- C. Solar Special Permit Extension Request; Distributed Solar Development, LLC (DSD), New Leaf Energy. 52 Morse's Lane. The plans and accompanying documentation are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office, Parting Ways Building, 130 Main Street 1st floor, during regular business hours.
- **D. Solar Special Permit Extension Request**; Distributed Solar Development, LLC (DSD), New Leaf Energy. 251 Mendall Road. The plans and accompanying documentation are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office, Parting Ways Building, 130 Main Street 1st floor, during regular business hours.

The Chairman explains that the above two Solar Special Permits were thought to be for a two-year period. The Town has learned that in 2021 the State of MA had issued a new directive that any Special Permits would be for a three-year period. The Chairman notes that he is waiting further guidance from Town Counsel before making determinations for the above two Solar Special permits.

Issue:

A motion is made to continue Item C and Item D above to the next Planning Board meeting.

So moved: R. Ellis

Second: S. Boucher

Vote was 4-0 (one abstention)

Issue:

A motion is made to adjourn the meeting.

So moved: R. Ellis

Second: B. Deschamps

Vote was 4-0 (one abstention)

Respectively submitted,

Paul Sullivan Administrative Assistant

January 10.23-7

Paul Sullivan Date

Mark Francois, Chairman Date