

TOWN OF HOLDERNESS
Planning Board Meeting Minutes: March 15, 2022

A. Francesco called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Members Present: Angi Francesco, Chair, Carl Lehner, Secretary, Bill Nesheim, Member, Ron Huntoon, Member, Peter Francesco, Ex-Officio

Members Not Present: Janet Cocchiaro

Also Present: Michael Capone, Town Administrator, Iain MacLeod, Executive Director, Squam lakes Natural Science Center and Holderness Resident, Clayton Titus.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 15, 2022

A. Francesco asked for any corrections to the minutes. Messrs. Nesheim and Lehner pointed out two spelling errors.

MOTION: “To approve the minutes of February 15, 2022” as amended.

Motion: B. Nesheim

Second: C. Lehner

Discussion: none

Motion Passed: 5–Yes 0– No

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

OTHER BUSINESS: Squam Lakes Natural Science Center Solar Array – Executive Director, Iain MacLeod, was present to provide an overview of the project and ask for clarification on their plan submission.

Mr. Macleod mentioned that the Center had been planning and fundraising for a solar array project for a number of years and were now ready to proceed with the installation of the array. The panels will be installed in the areas between the parking lots. It is hoped that they will provide close to 100% of the Center’s electrical needs. Mr. MacLeod was seeking some direction from the Board as to what they would need to see in the application.

R. Huntoon asked if the arrays would have some protection so as to not be damaged given their location.

I. MacLeod replied that they would.

R. Huntoon asked if the arrays would have footings

I. Macleod responded that he would check with Mr. Vansant who was designing the system.

C. Lehner asked if the arrays would be used as an educational exhibit and a way for folks to learn about Solar power.

I. MacLeod replied that the arrays would be used as an educational tool which is one of the reasons they were placing them in the parking areas.

B. Nesheim mentioned that there is a list of items required in the site plan application that would need to be reviewed.

A. Francesco asked how much of the array would be visible from Route 113?

I. MacLeod referred to the photos and the mockup he had provided.

B. Nesheim briefly reviewed the screening requirements.

A. Francesco commented that there may not be much change to the stormwater management plan on record, but the Board would need some information with regard to the impacts of possible changes associated with the installation of the arrays.

P. Francesco asked if the project would address future needs.

I. Macleod responded that the Centers next step was do an energy audit in an effort to reduce overall energy consumption, but if more arrays were needed in the future, they would be located elsewhere on the property.

A. Francesco asked what the timeline was for the project.

I. Macleod was hoping to get the project started this spring.

P. Francesco asked if the Board members could make a loop through the parking lot to get a lay of the land.

I. MacLeod responded it would be fine.

R. Huntoon asked how much power would be produced.

I. Macleod responded that the combined output of the proposed array when combined with the Blue Heron School array was 142KW.

A. Francesco mentioned that the Center should go through the application checklist and contact the Town Office with any questions regarding the application.

The Town Administrator noted that the application would need to be received by March 23rd in order to be heard at the April 19th meeting.

Mr. MacLeod thanked the Board for their time.

Next Meeting: April 19, 2022 – The Town Administrator mentioned that no other applications had been received to date for next month. The deadline is March 23rd.

The Town Administrator reviewed a land Use permit application with the Board to be certain that his understanding of how to proceed in processing it was consistent with the Zoning Ordinance. The Board was in agreement with the Town Administrator's assessment of the path forward with the permit.

The Town Administrator also advised the Board that he had provided local approval for the expansion of a septic system at Curry Place to accommodate the addition of another building. There was some brief discussion of the history of the phased work done on the property. The Town Administrator will review Planning Board records for additional information.

Clayton Titus, a Holderness resident, was present to observe the meeting as he has shown some interest in possibly seeking appointment to the Planning Board. Clayton had been in conversation with the Town Administrator recently and it was suggested that he attend a meeting to get an idea of how the Board functions. Clayton provided a few details regarding his background to the Board which includes some planning and land use work. The Board members thanked Clayton for attending and for his interest in serving.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:11PM the following motion was made.

MOTION: "To adjourn."

Motion: B. Nesheim

Second: R. Huntoon

Discussion: None

Motion Passed: 5– Yes 0 – No

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Capone
Town Administrator