

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP
PLANNING BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 16, 2010**

The Board Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. This meeting was video-streamed.

ROLL CALL:

Members present: Del Vento, Fonde, Malay, Orr, Parsekian, Santoro, Spitzer, Winter, Bianchi, Gilmore

Members late: Huckins (7:39 p.m.)

Members absent: none

Board Planner Frank Banisch, Angela Clerico of Banish Associates, and Assistant Township Planner David Schley were also present.

OPEN MEETING STATEMENT

“In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law of 1975, notice of this public hearing of the Planning Board of the Township of Bernards was posted on the bulletin board in the reception hall of the Municipal Building, Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ, was mailed to the Bernardsville News, Bernardsville, NJ, and to the Courier News, Bridgewater, NJ all on December 9, 2009, and was mailed to all those people who have requested individual notice and paid the required fee.

“The following procedure has been adopted by the Bernards Township Planning Board. There will be no new cases heard after 10:00 p.m., and no new witnesses or new testimony heard after 10:30 p.m.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES was carried.

APPROVAL OF CHARGES AGAINST ESCROW ACCOUNTS

The motion was made by Mr. Orr and seconded by Ms. Del Vento to carry discussion of charges by EKA Associates for January 1-15, 2010 to the next meeting. This was approved by a voice vote.

Mr. Huckins joined the meeting

COMPLETENESS REVIEW – Bishop Janes United Methodist Church – Block 1510, Lot 3 – Washington Avenue and Ridge Street – Minor Subdivision and Bulk Variance

Mr. Winter recused himself from this application. Ms. Del Vento became acting Chair.

David Schley stated, as per his January 20, 2010 memo that all of the required items had been submitted.

The motion was made by Mr. Orr and seconded by Mr. Malay to deem the application complete.

Roll call:

Aye: Del Vento, Fonde, Huckins, Malay, Orr, Parsekian, Santoro, Spitzer,
Bianchi

Motion carried

Mr. Winter returned to the Board.

MASTER PLAN DISCUSSION

- Green Building & Environmental Sustainability Plan Element, Draft #2

Mr. Frank Banisch discussed the draft and the changes made since the last meeting.

The following revisions were discussed:

- Objectives for Green Buildings and Environmental Sustainability (page 4) - #5 should be re-phrased to note encouragement of alternative energy technologies and include the desire to avoid negative neighborhood visual impact.
- Municipal Planning & Design (page 6) – the 2007 Green Team report needs to be acknowledged
- Bullet Point #c (page 7) – substitute “Encourage” support of local farmers.
- Add a Bullet Point #f (page 7) on encouraging the utilization of green building standards and renewable energy sources for new construction and renovations.
- Resource Protection – Water (page 7) – add a paragraph on the hazards of road salt
- Resource Protection – Wildlife (page 7) – add a reference to the Natural Resource Inventory.

Public hearing was opened for questions and comments on this plan element.

- Bill Allen – noted his approval of initiatives that inform people of green alternatives.
- Anthony Sblendorio, Green Team member and Basking Ridge resident – complimented the Board, Frank Banisch and Angela Clerico for their work on this plan element.
- Jim Milito – recommended that the section on incentives be revised.

Hearing no further comments, the public portion of this hearing on this plan element was closed.

Board members asked Mr. Banisch to add their revisions to the draft for further review on March 2, 2010. All of the plan elements previously approved for discussion will be posted on the Township’s web site. The public hearing for the entire Master Plan Re-evaluation will be held on Tuesday, March 16, 2010.

The agenda was amended and the scheduled closed session on pending litigation filed by St. Bernards Protestant Episcopal Church was carried to a further meeting.

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Florio
Secretary to the Board