

TOWN OF COEYMANS PLANNING BOARD MEETING

June 3, 2019

Attendees

Members Present: Mr. Foronda, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Collins, Mr. McGuire, Mr. Ross

Members Absent: Mr. Quinto, Mr. Nolan

Also Present: Mr. Cashin, Building Inspector; Ms. Ziegler, Recording Secretary; Mr. Pastore, ZBA Attorney

Public Present: See attached list

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Foronda at 7:00 p.m. There was a quorum; full board present.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. McGuire made motion to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2019 meeting; seconded by Mr. Collins; all in favor.

Report of the Building Inspector

There were two items on tonight's agenda: public hearing for WM Biers, Inc. and discussion of Liotta special use permit application. Mr. Cashin stated that Mr. Biers sent a letter asking for his application to be put on hold; he has not heard from Mr. Liotta and did not expect him to be at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Foronda asked Mr. Cashin if he had heard anything about the granting to the easement from the Albany County Water Board for Lumens Holding solar garden. Mr. Cashin stated that nothing has been received and no building permit has been issued.

Mr. Foronda read the letter from Mr. Biers into the record. Discussion was held which included:

Mr. Pastore stated that at this point the application is not pending before the board, it has been withdrawn and if the applicant chooses to resume his request as the letter indicates then at that point the board will consider it. As far as review of SEQRA and the like, it is not before the board anymore; the application has been withdrawn.

Mr. Pastore was asked: In his opinion if the applicant was to submit a new application either at the end of this year or the beginning of next year or some point in the future, where would the board begin that process – would they pick up where they left off if the application was the same or would it be a new application that would have to go through all of the steps again? Mr. Pastore replied that he does not know if they have to go through another whole SEQRA. He thinks that given the letter and its content it does not appear that the applicant is abandoning altogether the request and the application; Board could hold it in abeyance but not act upon it until applicant requests the board's continued review. Board could consider this held in abeyance. If he looks further into this and there is a determination that you can't have this kind of limbo then he can further advise the board. But if at all possible, the existing SEQRA could remain as long as the application is held in abeyance as long as the application stays as it current stands. If the terms of the application change, then it is a whole new application.

Miscellaneous

Mr. LaGuire of Friends of Coeymans who was in attendance at the meeting stated that he had a few questions for Mr. McGuire: does Mr. McGuire see his involvement with the Conservation Advisory Council, this Planning Board, and his candidacy as an appearance of a conflict of interest. Mr. McGuire responded that this was discussed at the CAC meeting at length and he feels that it is not a conflict of interest and feels that exposure to CAC and the Planning Board makes him a more rounded candidate. This is not a forum to discuss his candidacy.

Mr. LaGuire also made statements about last month's meeting and minutes which Mr. McGuire felt were inaccurate and explained what transpired at that meeting.

Mr. Pastore interjected that the Planning Board has to follow the items on the agenda and obviously there are some conditions and concerns of the residents and those may be addressed or raised but he does not know if this is the public forum to do that. Board needs to abide by the agenda and those are the items which need to be discussed.

Albany County Planning Board: Mr. Cashin mentioned that the ACPB has instituted a new policy that all applications had to be stamped and signed by licensed design professional. Mr. Schmitt attended the ACPB meeting to get some clarification; ACPB made that blanket statement.

E-mail Addresses: Mr. McGuire stated that all of the Planning Board and Zoning Board members now have Coeymans e-mail address – first letter of first name, their last name then @coeymas.org.

Adjournment

Mr. Ross made motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Foronda; all in favor.

