

PLANNING BOARD
TOWN OF BERNE
PO BOX 57
BERNE NY 12023

Date: October 27, 2022

1. Regular Meeting: 7 PM

Joe Martin (Planning Chairman) called the meeting to order at 7 PM, The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Joe Martin.

Joe Martin took roll call, the following people were present at the meeting.

Present:

Joe Martin (Planning Chairman), Cathy Shultes, Mike Vincent, Bob Kipper, Pat Safford, Peg Warner (Alternate), Kris Bremmer (Alternate) and Peggy Deitz (Secretary)

Public Sign In: Dennis Palow, Tom Spargo

New Business: Planning Board review for acceptance/approval of Kathleen Moore Solar Variance

Old Business: Kathleen Moore Solar Variance approved by the ZBA

The following was discussed by the Planning Board Members:

1. Old and New Business were switched this meeting we started with old business, the ZBA's approval to grant the solar array variance at the October 19,2022 Public Hearing and regular meeting that followed when they made their decision to grant the Variance. Mike Vincent read the ZBA's approval letter written by ZBA Chairman Tom Spargo aloud to the Board members.in summation the approval letter granted the Variance for the 41 foot setback that was needed to be in compliance with the 100 foot from property line setback they need. The only stipulation the ZBA made and took a vote on was that the applicant didn't need to put up any kind of screening because of the natural growth of shrubs and vegetation and a natural berm. Other than that stipulation the variance was approved..
2. In new business we went over the application along with the Albany County Planning Boards decision sheet and the Agricultural Data Assessment sheet. Mike Vincent talked about the Site Visit that he and Joe Martin. Cathy Shultes asked if all fees had been paid for the Variance application, mailings, and building permit, We also discussed making a spreadsheet or some kind of form to list all fees that has been paid so everything was in one spot and easily accessible, that way it could be reviewed by all the board members. Pat Safford made a good point that when we do make the sheet to keep track of all the

fees paid that no actual copies of checks so that no one's account information can be seen so the new form will only have check numbers on them , but in no way any of the applicants personal information on them.

3. Mike Vincent then made a motion to accept the approval of the Variance, Bob Kipper seconded the motion. Motion was carried with the following members voting Aye

Joe Martin, Bob Kipper, Mike Vincent, Cathy Shultes, Pat Safford, Peg Warner and Kris Bremmer.

4. Joe Martin also mentioned that he spoke to Scott Duncan who was going to get back to him with more information on how when applicants apply for any kind of solar application that the fire department will be notified of exactly the batteries are placed and exactly where the shut off box is so if there is a fire when 911 is called they can notify all first responders that there is solar on the property and where everything is located. Mike Vincent also stated that he has reached out to Mary Alice Molgard Berne Fire District Chief on exactly how to get this implemented with 911 and first responders.

5. Cathy Shultes also mentioned that years ago and she's not sure if it exists anymore but there was a program call Vial of Life where it was a tube that was by peoples door that gave important information about people that first responders would need to know such as pre-existing health conditions, Oxygen use or anything they would need to know to treat a patient, she suggested we look into implementing something like that again.

6. Supervisor Palow was also at the meeting and he told the Board Members that he was working with the Albany County Sheriff Craig Apple in procuring cots and blankets so this winter especially with the heating oil prices sky rocketing that we can open up our Senior Center and Switzkill Farms property to seniors or the public in general that need a place to stay that has heat, The Switzkill property is like a regular house with 14 bedrooms with multiple bathrooms and a full functioning kitchen.

7. Joe Martin made a motion that there would be no November Planning Board meeting because there was nothing on the docket that needed the Planning Boards consideration. Bob Kipper seconded the motion. The motion was carried with all members voting Aye.

8. Pat Safford made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Mike Vincent seconded the motion. The motion was carried with all the members voting Aye.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Peggy Deitz

Administrative Assistant