

PLANNING BOARD  
TOWN OF BERNE  
PO BOX 57  
BERNE NY 12023

Date: October 6, 2022

- Regular Meeting: 7 PM

Joe Martin (Planning Chairman) called the meeting to order at 6:59 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, Peg Warner (Alternate) and Peggy Deitz (Secretary)

New Business: Kathleen Moore Solar Array Variance

The following was discussed by the Planning Board Members:

1. The original permit for the Solar Array was submitted by Kathleen Moore, a Variance is needed because of the proposed location is only 41ft from the property line instead of the required 100ft setback from the property line. Chairman Joe Martin and Bob Kipper will do the site visit required by the Planning Board. A Conservation Board Member could also be present for the site visit if they wanted to be there and Kathy Moore would recuse herself from this because she is a member of the Conservation Board.. Ms. Moore also stated that they would provide a buffer for the Solar Array if it was needed.

Joe Martin made the motion to send the Variance to the ZBA for a Public Hearing and a decision to approve or disapprove the Variance, Bob Kipper seconded the motion , all members voted aye, so the motion was carried.

2. Chairman Joe Martin told the Planning Board Members about the training workshop he attended in Lake Placid. Some of the topics discussed was Towns having to opt in or out for Cannabis. The Planning Board would review and suggest as to where setbacks are going to be regarding schools and churches, and what different permits and scheduling fees for dispensaries and cannabis farms in the community if the Town of Berne decides

to opt in. Chairman Martin also reminded all Planning Board members that their yearly training requirements have to be met by the end of the year. Since we were talking about Solar Arrays because of the Variance permit we had, and Cathy Shultes brought up that maybe look in to having the Fire Departments be at site visits so, they are aware that there are batteries on the premises in case of an emergency. The suggestion was also made that it would be a good idea to have visible signage to shut off. but another point was made that the power company has to be called to disconnect the power, the fire company is not permitted to. It was also suggested that solar company's may want to look into putting a connect and disconnect power to the batteries in a separate place and not close to the battery array.

Bob Kipper made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joe Martin seconded the motion, and the motion was carried with the following members voting Aye. Joe Martin, Bob Kipper, Michael Vincent, Cathy Shultes, and Peg Warner

Meeting adjourned 8 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Peggy Deitz

Administrative Assistant