

EDGARTOWN PLANNING BOARD
Tuesday, October 29, 2013 – 5:30 PM
Town Hall – Selectmen’s Meeting Room (upstairs conference room)
Minutes

Members in attendance: Robert Sparks, Chairman; Michael McCourt, Alan Wilson, Robert Cavallo.
Absent: Fred Mascolo
Staff in attendance: Lucy Morrison, Clerk.

Chairman Sparks called the meeting to order at 5:28 PM.

Dunham Rd Nominee Trust/Tower Hill Properties LLC, 41 Dunham Rd (29B-70): Minor modification to SP to add 4 downward shielding lights to an existing licensed pier. 5:29PM

In attendance: Richard Barbini.

Mr. Barbini of Schofield, Barbini & Hoehn Inc., the agent for the applicant, presented the modification to an existing special permit (approved April 17, 2007) to add four downward shielded lights to an existing timber pier. The original permit excluded the use of lighting, but the Conservation Commission has approved this request, and it is currently the only pier in the harbor that does not have lighting installed. Chairman Sparks asked why lights have not already been put in. Mr. Barbini answered that the previous owners of the property did not wish to spend the money to install the lights, but now the applicant is interested. Chairman Sparks asked if anyone from the public had any comments. There were none. There were also no comments from the board. Chairman Sparks asked for a motion. Mr. Cavallo made a motion to approve the modification to the special permit. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wilson and it was unanimously approved.

Winnetu/MV Community Services, 31 Dunes Rd (52-26.1): SP for one day to hold the “Possible Dreams” Fundraiser Auction & Dinner on 7/27/2014 5:36 PM

In attendance: John Kennedy- board of Community Services, Mark Snider- owner of Winnetu, Juliette Fay, Emily Levett, and Liza May.

John Kennedy, head of the board of Martha’s Vineyard Community Services (MVCS), presented the application for a special permit to hold the second Possible Dreams Fundraiser Auction and Dinner at the Winnetu in Katama. This event was also held last July, and by all accounts it was a financial success with more attendants than ever before. There were no complaints from the Conservation Commission or the Winnetu abutters last year.

Kennedy announced the establishment of a parking committee, who has ascertained that The Farm Institute is the most logical place to park. There will be shuttle busses from Aero Ave to Katama Rd and back; per request by the Conservation Commission. Last year, there was some concern about the condition of Aero Ave, a private dirt road, but the town and the Highway Department took care by adding sand and filling in pot holes. Kennedy expressed interest to see if this could be done again, if necessary. Mr. Wilson and Mr. McCourt also suggested wetting the road to cut down on dust.

Chairman Sparks stated that he was excited to have the event brought back to Edgartown, and that he was most concerned about complaints from the Winnetu’s neighbors. He asked Mr. Kennedy if there was anything that the board could do to assist his efforts. Kennedy jokingly asked the board for help

with the weather. Mr. McCourt praised Mr. Kennedy for his efforts to alleviate tension within the neighborhood for this event. Mr. McCourt suggested selectively giving tickets to abutters as another way of easing opposition.

Two letters from the public were received and read by the clerk. Mary Asel of 490 Katama Rd, and Deborah Hall and Robert Sarno of 98 Mattakesett Way, abutters to the Winnetu, wrote letters in strong support of the auction and the special permit.

Chairman Sparks asked if anyone in the audience had any comments. There were none. There were also no comments from the board. Mr. Cavallo made a motion to approve the special one day permit. Mr. Wilson seconded, and the motion was unanimously passed.

Giordano, 44 Caleb Pond Rd (30-53.211): Request to license and maintain an existing 143' pier constructed in 1983.

Neither the applicant nor the agent, Reid Silva, was in attendance to present the application. Mr. Cavallo moved to continue the public hearing to the next meeting of November 5, 2013. This motion was seconded by Mr. McCourt and unanimously approved by the board.

Proposed Amendments to the Rules & Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land, Edgartown, Massachusetts

The proposed amendments are still being edited. The board unanimously decided to continue the amendments until the document is complete with appendices before it is to be signed.

Tara Hills Trust Subdivision- Public Hearing Continuation

This application is awaiting the official Martha's Vineyard Commission signed decision. Neither Doug Hoehn nor Sean Murphy was in attendance. The board unanimously decided to continue the public hearing until November 19, 2013.

Discussion – Solar Project Aero Av. Landscape Plan 5:42 PM

In attendance: Melissa Towns

Melissa Towns, owner of 11 Mattakesett Way, did not receive an abutter's notice two years ago for the proposed solar project on Aero Ave. This is the closest dwelling to the proposed solar panels, with an approximate distance of 50 feet from the house structure to the solar panels. Mrs. Towns also mentioned that one of her neighbors, at 9 Mattakesett Way also did not receive a notice. The clerk said she would look into this.

She and her husband have owned the house for 15 years, and are mostly summer residents. They do not receive the MV Times or the Gazette off island, and this is the first time they have heard of this project. They bought the house as a retirement home, and rent it when they can to supplement their income. They are extremely concerned about the views from the second and third floors of their home.

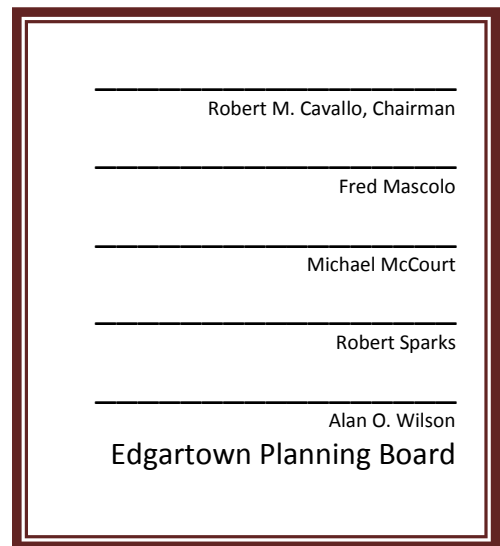
The current proposal features a 3' berm and 6' trees to screen the solar panels. This will not have an effect on the views. Mrs. Towns requests that the town push to match the height of the current trees on the property, approximately 25'. Mr. Wilson asked if this height is truly necessary, Mrs. Towns emphasized that it is. She provided several diagrams to illustrate her point. Chairman Sparks and Mr. Cavallo agreed that between the groundcover and the tree cover this height should be possible.

Chairman Sparks was under the impression that this project was supposed to have been completed in 2012. Mrs. Towns thought that it was supposed to be finished by the end of this winter. Mr. McCourt sincerely apologized from the board for the lack of notification, especially considering that Mrs. Towns is the most affected abutter. Mr. McCourt also suggested moving trees currently on the property to help screen the solar panels. All of the board members will take Mrs. Towns' opinions into account when moving forward with this project.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Morrison



Date Signed: _____