Approved Minutes of the 4 January 2023 Town of Clifton Planning Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order in the town office building at approximately 6:01 p.m. Present were Board Chairperson Bruce Jellison, Vice Chairperson David Cogdell, and members Vern Campbell, David Noto, and Sherry Murray. Code Enforcement Officer (COE) Rick Leavitt was also present to discuss a permit application. Additionally, alternate member John Williams II was present as an observer.

Upon a motion by Vern/David Cogdell and a 3/0 vote, the minutes of the 7 December 2022 Board meeting were approved with David Noto and Sherry abstaining since they were not present at that meeting.

Since this was the first meeting of the new year, Board officers needed to be elected. Accordingly, the following actions took place:

--Upon a motion by David Cogdell/Vern, Bruce was nominated to be Chairperson for the upcoming year. This was approved following a 4/0 vote with Bruce abstaining.

--Upon a motion by Bruce/Vern, David Cogdell was nominated to be Vice Chairperson for the upcoming year. This was approved following a 4/0 vote with David Cogdell abstaining.

Following a discussion with town CEO Rick Leavitt, a permit application for 23 Campbell Lane was approved by the Board following a motion by Vern/David Cogdell and a 5/0 vote.

Prior to this meeting, the Board of Selectmen had asked the Planning Board to review a proposed commercial solar energy moratorium ordinance and make a recommendation whether the Planning Board recommended its approval. This request was triggered by the fact the town’s Land Use Ordinance (LUO) did not include any ***specific*** permitting criteria regarding commercial solar projects. A moratorium would allow the LUO to be amended accordingly. Following an extensive discussion including comments from several members of the public in attendance, a vote was requested via a motion by David Noto/Sherry. The results of that vote were as follows: Bruce, David Noto, and Sherry voted to recommend approval, David Cogdell voted to not recommend approval, and Vern abstained. Bruce will advise the Selectmen of the results of the vote.

Following a motion by David Noto/Sherry and a 5/0 vote, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Board Vice Chairperson David Cogdell.