Approved Minutes of the 1 February 2023 Town of Clifton Planning Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. in the town office building. Present were Board Chairperson Bruce Jellison, Vice Chairperson David Cogdell, and members Vern Campbell, David Noto, and Sherry Murray. Additionally, alternate member John Williams II was present as an observer.

Upon a motion by Vern/David Noto and a 5/0 vote, the minutes of the 4 January 2023 Board meeting were approved.

The Board reviewed and discussed the solar energy ordinances of the towns of Eddington, Hampden, and Dedham/Lucerne for the purpose of identifying aspects of those ordinances that the Board might incorporate into a Town of Clifton commercial solar energy ordinance. It was the Board’s view that any new solar energy ordinance for Clifton would not include any private residence, non-commercial solar energy systems.

John advised the Board that, given Williams’ family business interests in Clifton, he would recuse himself from any Board votes/actions pertaining to timber harvesting, gravel pits and other quarries, and blueberry farming. It was the Board’s opinion that John, when afforded the opportunity to vote as an acting member, should only recuse himself on a case-by-case basis when circumstances warranted.

The Board briefly discussed the Board of Selectmen-proposed solar energy moratorium that will be the subject of a town vote on 8 February 2023.

The Board agreed to conduct a workshop at 6:00 p.m. on 15 February 2023 to continue working on a draft solar energy ordinance. David Noto advised that he would not be able to attend due to a schedule conflict.

Upon a motion by David Noto/Vern and a 5/0 vote, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:51 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Board Vice Chairperson David Cogdell

NOTE: As there was no new information to report, no Comprehensive Plan Committee meeting took place following the Planning Board meeting.