

MINUTES
Of the Township of West Milford
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
March 22, 2022
Regular Meeting via Zoom

(Due to COVID-19 social distancing requirements this virtual meeting was held on Zoom.) Robert Brady, Board Chairman, opened the Zoom Meeting of the Zoning Board of Adjustment at 7:33 p.m. The Board Secretary read the Legal Notice.
7:31 PM

Legal Notice was announced

ROLL CALL
7:32 PM

Present: Linda Connolly, Russell Curving, Dan Jurkovic, Arthur McQuaid, Frank Curcio, Michael DeJohn, Peter McGuinness, Robert Brady
Also Present: Pamela Jordan, Board Secretary, Steven Glatt, Esq., Kenneth Ochab, Patrick McClellan
Absent: Matthew Conlon – Appointed, not sworn in to date
Arrived late:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

The Chairman greeted the Board, the applicants and any members of the public. Mr. Brady explained the Zoning Board and Open Public Meetings Act, the social distancing requirements as a result of Covid-19, and the reason that the meeting was being conducted by electronic means via ZOOM. The meetings are advertised in the Herald News and on the Township website. The Board operates in accordance with the Open Meeting Act of the State of New Jersey, which means discussions and decisions are made in public.

The Board Attorney swore in Russell Curving as a Citizen Member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment for the Township of West Milford.

MEMORIALIZATIONS

LITIGATION

MINUTES

A motion was made by Arthur McQuaid and second by Russell Curving to approve February 22, 2022 meeting minutes.

Roll Call vote:

Yes:

Linda Connolly, Russell Curving, Dan Jurkovic, Peter McGuinness, Arthur McQuaid, Frank Curcio, Michael DeJohn, Robert Brady

The Board Chairman referred to Resolution 2022-139, RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY ACCEPTING RESINGATIONS TENDERED Michael Gerst from the position, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Citizen Member, term expires 12/31/25. Date tendered, March 10, 2022.

DISCUSSION

The Board discussed resuming in person meetings at Town Hall or remaining as Zoom. A challenge of in person, distanced meetings is picking up adequate audio. One member stated zoom was convenient when multiple applicants were waiting and not inconvenienced by waiting outside. Several members shared, family members had been recently affected by Covid. One of the Professionals stated that two towns he has done work had resumed in person meetings then returned to zoom due to Covid. Sharing screens, technology and the health benefits have made zoom a good option. Meeting virtually is a benefit for viewing exhibits on a computer screen while in person exhibits were far away. The Board Attorney referenced the Green Meadows Application (heard in the West Milford High School) and the challenges faced to obtain accurate and audible recordings for the record.

A Board member asked if utilizing the PAL building could be explored as a location for future meetings - offering room to distance with ample parking. A concern was the audio capabilities and what the time it would take to arrange for set up at a different location. Ample space in the regular meeting room would need to be arranged for Board members, Applicants and witnesses. Asking an Applicant to wait outside would be less objectionable in the warmer weather

A Board Member questioned if the Board would have enough time for correct notice for the April meeting if zoom were to continue for 2 months. The Board Attorney stated revisiting this topic in May would give enough time to Notice correctly because Notice must go out 10 days before. Notice for publication in the paper and bulletin board require 48 hour advance notice.

A motion was made Arthur McQuaid to continue with Zoom meetings for April and May and give the township the opportunity to explore the PAL building and or the township hall or

whichever they can make safe for all and to revisit the topic again in May, second by Dan Jurkovic.

Roll Call vote:

Yes:

Linda Connolly, Russell Curving, Dan Jurkovic, Peter McGuinness, Arthur McQuaid, Frank Curcio, Michael DeJohn, Robert Brady

The Board Secretary stated internal, technical challenges prevented communication and transmittal for Professional invoices. It was decided to table the invoices until the April meeting so that all Board members had the opportunity to review. A glitch with AOL and Yahoo accounts prevented delivery and receipt. The Board Secretary indicated West Milford IT was aware of the problem and working on curing the issue. The Board Chairman indicated he would make a call to the Network Administrator.

The Board Attorney swore in Peter McGuinness as a Citizen Member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment for the Township of West Milford.


A motion was made by Arthur McQuaid and second by Russell Curving to adjourn.

Roll Call vote:

Yes:

Linda Connolly, Russell Curving, Dan Jurkovic, Peter McGuinness, Arthur McQuaid, Frank Curcio, Michael DeJohn, Robert Brady

Adjourned PM 8:18PM


Respectfully Submitted
Pamela Jordan