

Westmoreland Planning Board
July 15, 2024
Westmoreland Town Hall
Approved Minutes

Attending: Lauren Bressett, Bruce Smith, Bill McGahie, John Stronk (alt.), Kristen Riley, Larry Siegel (alt.), Alison Fissette. Excused: Tim Thompson, Liana Capra. John Stronk was seated for Tim.

Lauren Bressett opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Review of minutes

6/17/24 - Bruce Smith makes a motion to accept minutes as printed. Alison seconded that motion. All voted in favor.

7/8/24 - Alison Fissette made a motion to accept minutes as written. Bruce seconded that motion. All voted in favor.

Will Martin, Kate Cushing, Bart Cushing, and Brenda Trahon (real estate agent) attended the meeting for an informational hearing regarding a lot line adjustment.

Review of Solar Ordinances

Alison Fissette thinks it could be premature to create an ordinance with the masterplan survey in process. Bruce Smith also said that towns can make any ordinance they want on solar, but we do not know what the town wants. Alison suggested holding an informational session on it. She thinks that residential solar is good as is, but the board needs to look at community solar, agriculture, and accessory use. Bruce feels the town should be asked if there should be areas that are protected from solar, like a historic district, scenic views, or farms. Lauren suggested the board does an informational letter on the town website, as well as a questionnaire. Things to consider putting on there:

- Should there be areas that are restricted?
- What is the max amount you would like to see?
- How do residents feel about all uses of solar?
- What are other concerns?

Bruce suggested putting in KW rather than just the number of panels as technology is constantly changing. Lauren Bressett said that perhaps we could put in an addendum explaining the intention on the existing 50 panel limit in KW which wouldn't be an ordinance change.

Forms of Education to Support Masterplan

Lauren Bressett said writing an informational letter on zones could be helpful. Larry Siegel said he can write something up about what they are and why the town needs zones. He would like the board members' input on what should be included in the letter as well. Another topic we should

consider in the future is housing, explaining common terms and development types which should make it easier for folks to then answer the master plan survey.

Bruce makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alison Fissette seconds that motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm. Recorded by Kristen Riley.