

Bernards expected to vote to revoke quarry development plan

Mike Deak, @MikeDeakMyCJ Published 12:00 p.m. ET Jan. 21, 2018



(Photo: ~File)

BERNARDS - Faced with mounting community opposition, the township committee is expected to vote next week to revoke the redevelopment designation of the Millington Quarry.

The vote will be taken at a meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 24, in the Performing Arts Center of Ridge High School. The meeting was moved to the high school from the municipal building to accommodate an anticipated large number of residents who want to attend.

The expected vote will be a victory for opponents of the project, which would have seen the 183-acre Millington Quarry off Stonehouse Road developed with a hotel, housing, restaurants, stores, a farm and a lake that would fill the deepest quarrying pit on the property.

"We want to ensure that Basking Ridge does not become entangled in a divisive mess like this again," Friends of Stop the Quarry Plan, a grassroots group formed to oppose the plan, said a statement after Mayor John Carpenter announced that the township committee would be taking the vote.

The group will continue to push the township not to entertain any plans to develop the quarry until the rehabilitation and environmental remediation of the property is complete.

The group is proposing that the quarry comply with the zoning specified in the township's master plan that calls for two-acre single-family homes.

Any future development of the quarry should "preserve the small-town quality of life" in the township, the group said.

[READ: Sierra Club joins opposition to Bernards quarry plan \(/story/news/local/development/2018/01/10/sierra-club-joins-opposition-bernards-quarry-plan/1018616001/\)](#)

[READ: Bernards nanny accused of abusing 9-month-old \(/story/news/crime/2017/11/30/bernards-nanny-accused-abusing-9-month-old/909275001/\)](#)

[READ: Bernards schools to crack down on vaping \(/story/news/education/in-our-schools/2017/12/02/bernards-schools-crack-down-vaping/905093001/\)](#)

For years, the township has grappled with the future of one of the [largest undeveloped and unprotected properties](#) (<http://www.bernards.org/administration/Document/2017/Quarry%20of%20epicness.mp4>) in the township.

The quarry stopped operating in 2016 after more than a century of mining. In a memo to the planning board, Township Engineer Thomas Timko said "it appears that all or nearly all rock that could be mined and sold commercially has been depleted."

In the resolution to be decided Wednesday, the township committee is expected to withdraw the designation of the quarry property as a redevelopment area, reject an ordinance changing the quarry's zoning and keeping the present zoning in effect.

Staff Writer Mike Deak: 908-243-6607; mdeak@mycentraljersey.com

Read or Share this story: <http://mycj.co/2G45vrS>



Save on
QuickBooks 2018



Shop now

amazon