

Town of Ledyard Planning Board
1099 Poplar Ridge Rd, Aurora, NY 13026
November 13, 2019 Minutes

Members Present:

Deborah Ross, Chairman
Mark Bailey, Member
Eric Littlejohn, Member
Claire Morehouse
Paul Simkin, Member
Tiffany Potter, Recording Secretary

Others Present:

Jason Dickey, TRC- Clifton Park, NY
Tom Daniels, TRC- Augusta ME
Mike Beckner, Suneast
Harrison Kihonge, Suneast
Nancy Valois, TRC
Shirley Egan, Fry Rd resident

Start Time: This meeting was called to order by Chairman, Deborah Ross, at 7:06 PM

Dog Corners Solar SDD

On November 12, 2019, the Town board adopted negative declaration on the SEQR and passed a Resolution adopting local law to establish Dog Corners Solar Special Development District.

Jason Dickey, Representative of Sun East, introduced himself and went over the Project. There is a goal of 20 megawatts, and to have this solar project developed on 131.5 acres, past the air strip, with fencing installed around the solar field, and a minimum of 5 acres cleared, with access roads, and to have the Substation on Dublin Hill Road upgraded. This is funded by grant money through NYSERDA. Panels will be 10 feet from the ground, to the top of the panels, and these panels will move with the way the sun travels. There will be 18 feet in between each panel.

This has gone through the Archaeological, phase 1A and phase 1B, with soil tests as well, and SHPO. One endangered species, the Northern Long eared bat, was found within this area but the project will have no adverse impact on it.

The entire parcel will be fenced with posts driven into the ground. Corner posts will be in cement. Gates will be installed in corners. With decommissioning, all infrastructure will be removed from the property including the cement.

Questions came up on the 239 about the water runoff and being so close to the lake, where will the water runoff from the panels go? Can the ground absorb that or will there be erosion? Will the ground be stabilized with grasses? Jason let us know that they will stabilize the ground with a grass seed, a fingerlakes blend, and the water will fall out the solar panels in small spaces for that purpose. And the plan is to keep this maintained and bush hogged.

Member Claire Morehouse asked what would happen if this company didn't exist years from now, what would happen to this? Jason answered; someone else would own it because it would still be producing revenue, and if no one wanted to continue with it, the town would use the decommissioning bond or escrow funds to decommission it.

Property setbacks were discussed.

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They are working on landscaping designs. There will be a "babying period" for these plants. Neighbors are concerned about the view of the lake being blocked and would like to have an input on these designs.

A time table is given for this project, from start to finish after the permit is issued, they say 4-6 months, max, based on the weather.

A request from Shirley Egan asks for visual sims, that will be helpful for us, and would like to see a full scale of drawings. So that we may see this from different prospective, and come up with a plan that everyone can agree on.

Deadline for the 239 is December 10.

Next official meeting is December 4th at 7 pm to complete the 239 package of the 239. Claire makes a motion to continue forward; Mark seconds the motion.

Vote: Aye- all, 0-Nay

Concerns of the Planning Board:

- Setbacks for the fence and property line, on west side
- No room for planting with the fencing so close to the ditch
- Decommissioning and transfer of ownership if ever sold
- Proposed planting and landscaping, and maintenance
- Can we contact NYSEG about this?

September Minutes: Mark makes a motion with revision to accept the September minutes; Eric seconds the motion. Vote: Aye- All, 0-Nay

New Business: Recording Secretary, Tiffany, let the Planning Board know she plans to step down from this position due to school and work. December will be her last meeting.

Adjourn: Claire makes a motions to adjourn, Mark seconds the motion.

End Time: 8:40 PM

Next Official Meeting: December 4th at 7:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Tiffany Potter
Recording Secretary