

**UPPER TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 17, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Upper Township Planning Board was held at the Township Hall, 2100 Tuckahoe Road, Petersburg, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

SUNSHINE ANNOUNCEMENT

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Present: Georgette Costello, Jack Griffin, Joseph Harney, Ted Kingston, Gary Riordan, Hobart Young, Robert Young, Chairman James Kelly.

Absent: Michael Endicott, Scott Morgan, Richard Palombo.

Also, in attendance were Jeffrey Barnes, Board Solicitor; Paul Dietrich, Board Engineer; Shelley Lea, Board Secretary.

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Robert Young, seconded by Mr. Riordan, and approved. Abstain: Costello, H. Young.

SWEAR IN PAUL DIETRICH

DISCUSSION

1. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE MASTER PLAN REEXAMINATION AND REVIEW OF THE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC ACCESS PLAN**

Mr. Dietrich reviewed the Township of Upper Municipal Public Access Plan that he prepared dated 1-4-2019. He stated it is a requirement for all municipalities to have public access to water. The public access plan identifies where public access is, the amenities associated with it, preserving the public access and developing an implementation plan to talk about what type of access is not currently available. A public access plan is needed for the township to maintain its beach and dune maintenance permit. The township must reapply for the permit in 2020. Without this permit the township does not have the ability to maintain the beach and could jeopardize other permits needed to replace bulkheads and future beach fills. The State now requires an access plan since there are towns in Northern New Jersey that restrict public access to the

beach. The Green Team has reviewed this plan as well as many other civic organizations.

He will add the fishing pier at BL England to the plan. He feels this may be an opportunity to work with the owners of BL England to build a new boat ramp. He stated that the township complies with the ADA requirements for access to the beach. A typo will be corrected on page 8 under fishing. Appendix 2 on the Public Access Table will be updated to something other than boardwalk to beach. Mr. Kingston suggested adding the boat ramp on the opposite side of Corson Inlet Bridge next to the radio tower. Mr. Dietrich will investigate this.

The meeting was open to the public.

Michael Clifford, 200 S Bayview Drive, was sworn. His property is located next to the playground. He would prefer a fishing pier added somewhere else since this is an established area with two bars and a playground and not much parking.

Linda Bateman, 14 E. Tecumseh Road, was sworn. She stated the drawbacks of putting a fishing pier in Strathmere must be considered. She stated that fishing can be done from the beach, the bridge and other places in Upper Township. Strathmere has no bathroom or parking facilities. There is the threat of no dark sky since a fishing pier would draw more lights and more attractions. She stated the Strathmere Improvement Association wants to continue purchasing mobie mats for the beach. The association would also like to know about amenities and improvements to the street ends. She requested the number of signs at the street ends be reduced and the street ends made more aesthetically pleasing and less cluttered. The playground survey that was done suggests a bench system with shade where people could see the ocean since not everyone can walk up to the water. She also suggested tables and benches to be able to see the sunset on the bay. She feels the playground is not user friendly. She believes that parking should not be allowed at the end of the roads.

The public portion of the meeting was closed.

Mr. Dietrich will add wording to the plan about enhancing the aesthetics of the street ends and enhanced viewing of the beach and bay.

Mr. Dietrich discussed the resiliency program where the board looked at the sea level rise and hazard mapping. This information has not been incorporated into the master plan. He discussed BL England and a redevelopment plan. Mr. Barnes explained it is appropriate to address this area while discussing the master plan reexamination. He stated the property owner must clean up the property to comply with certain federal requirements. Without the cleanup residential housing could not be put here since it

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doesn't meet the standards. Mr. Dietrich replied that residential could be put in the golf course area.

Hearing no further comment the meeting was closed to the public.

Mr. Dietrich has recently been to the flood plain managers conference where they discussed new ways of rating flood insurance. He suggested the board create restrictions or regulations for installing basements.

BILLS

A motion to approve the bills for payment was made by Mr. Riordan, seconded by Mr. Griffin, and approved.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. R. Young and seconded by Mr. Harney to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Submitted by,

Shelley Lea

