



CITY OF WARWICK

FRANK J. PICOZZI, MAYOR

**City of Warwick
Planning Board Meeting
Minutes
December 8, 2021**

Members Present: Benny Bergantino
Steve Catalano
Ashley Cullion
Kevin Flynn
Cynthia Gerlach
Michael Penta
Linda Polselli
Philip Slocum

Members Absent: None

Also in Attendance: Thomas Kravitz, Planning Director/AO
Lidia Cruz-Abreu, AAO
Eric Hindinger, Engineering Project Manager
David Petrarca, Solicitor

Chairperson Slocum called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

The Planning Board Chairman noted that there was an error in notification and that the Waterside at Little Pond Project would not be heard.

The November 2021 meeting minutes were presented for review and approval. A motion was made by Ms. Gerlach, seconded by Mr. Penta, to approve the November 2021 Planning Board minutes, as presented. All in favor; none opposed.

A. For discussion, consideration, and/or action - Continued review of proposed solar ordinance and comprehensive plan amendments, having incorporated Citizen recommendations from the prior month's meeting.

Planning Staff presented modifications to the proposed solar ordinance and comprehensive plan amendments based on public input.

Mr. Lucini, ISM Solar presented comment and three letters (ISM Solar, Tony Roderick, Little Rhody Beagle Club, and Steven O'Donnell, CEO YMCA of Greater Providence) all in favor of Solar. Noting that the neighbors in Cowesett were in favor of solar and did not want residential development of any type.

Public concerns noted issues with the posting; solar decommissioning and soil contamination, heavy metals and chemicals leaching into the soil and water systems, use of insecticides and discussions of items not listed on the agenda. The preference was for roof-top solar and the use of existing contaminated sites.

Board members noted the importance of getting the ordinance correct, prior to forwarding a recommendation to the City Council; additionally, the Board noted that homebuyers have certain expectations of uses allowed in a neighborhood based on the zoning at the time of purchase.

Mr. Catalano, seconded by Ms. Polselli, Mr. Penta, and Ms. Cullion to continue the project to the regularly scheduled January 12, 2022 meeting. All in favor, none opposed.

Ms. Cullion, seconded by Mr. Penta, made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm. All in favor, none opposed.