



Planning Board Minutes – May 28, 2013

A meeting of the Town of Freetown **Planning Board** was held on **May 28, 2013** at the Freetown Town Hall, 3 North Main Street, Assonet, MA. **Present:** Chairman Robert Raymond, Mark Rogers, Keven Desmarais (7:16).

A. Continued Public Hearing for the Niemiec Solar Array on 27 Locust Street called to order by Chairman Raymond (7:18)

Applicant is asking for approval to meet the state's deadline for solar project credits. Nick Dufresne of Thompson Farland presented the following revisions made after discussion with lot 46 abutters:

- Vinyl stockade fence along lot 46 property line
- 26 screening trees planted 6ft on center along line shared with lot 45
- Barbed wire taken off the fence

Discussion was opened to the public, which included several abutters, and an attorney for an abutter. The following issues were addressed:

- Re: moving the inverter further from shared property lines, the applicant is amenable pending NSTAR allowance
- Re: security lights at night; there will be none
- Re: visual buffer for 29 Locust, 5ft privets will be planted, but a stockade fence will not be put up in that area as panels will be very viewable
- Re: project decommission, the Niemiecs will take responsibility for dismantling the system

The board decided on the following conditions to the plan:

1. Electric conduits must be placed underground
2. The inverter on the easterly part of the site shall be no closer to the abutting neighbors than as shown on plan.
3. Every effort should be made to move the inverters shown on plan further away from the abutting easterly properties.
4. The inverters shall be sound shielded with a stockade fence.
5. The privet trees that shall serve as a visual buffer shall be at least 5 ft tall at the time of installation, and be replaced as needed.
6. Slats shall be added to the fence along the northerly property line from the northeast corner to the westerly end of the barn on Assessors lot 47.
7. A contaminate spill kit shall be available on site during construction.
8. A final as-built plan will be submitted by applicants and reviewed by the town's consulting engineer, showing as-built topography, panel layouts, raingardens, all access ways, fencing, and utilities above and under ground

Mr. Raymond entertained a motion to close public hearing; motion made by Mr. Desmarais, seconded by Mr. Rogers.

Motion to accept plan with stated conditions: Keven Desmarais; Second: Mark Rogers; unanimously voted. (8:13 PM)

B. Motion to accept proposed minor changes to the 67 Chase Rd solar array as stated in letter from Borrego dated May 17, 2013: Mark Rogers; Second: Keven Desmarais; voted unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 8:30 PM