Planning Board Minutes – September 27, 2016

A meeting of the Town of Freetown **Planning Board** was held on **September 27, 2016** at the Freetown Town Hall, 3 N Main St, Assonet, MA. **Present:** Keven Desmarais, Nicolas Velozo , Mark Rogers **Absent:** Robert Jose, Debra Robbins

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

A. Discussion of tree removal near the entrance of the Marie's Way Solar Array

David Albrecht of Borrego Solar approached the Board, requesting permission to cut down (2) trees to the right of the access road, right near the entrance gate. They also need to trim the tops of a number of trees on the left side of the access road to allow for power lines; these changes to the clearing plan were necessary to accommodate 2 relocated utility poles. Mr. Albrecht produced an excerpt from the plans[1] that depicted the requested changes. The Board packets also contained a written request[2] from Site Supervisor Jim Mellors.

The Board members had driven out to take a look at the trees that were proposed to be cut and trimmed. The Planning Technician had notified the direct abutter, at 2 Marie's Way via email and voicemail of the proposal and meeting tonight. Mr. Velozo asked how much the upper branches would be trimmed; Mr. Albrecht state 10-12 feet from the utility wires. Mr. Velozo asked how much closer to the road the relocated utility pole is; Mr. Albrecht states it is 25-30 feet closer to the road. Mr. Velozo asked how low the stumps would be cut to; Mr. Albrecht responded 4 feet above grade. After some discussion, the Board suggested they be cut to ground level.

Motion to approve the submitted changes for the aforementioned tree removal and trimming and utility pole relocation: Nicolas Velozo; Second: Mark Rogers; all in favor

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM

Submitted by,

Lauren Moreau
Planning Technician

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[1] "Interconnection Detail Plan" by Borrego Solar received 9/27/16
[2] Email received 9/22/16 from Jim Mellors to Planning Technician