

Agawam Planning Board –July 20, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Violet Baldwin, Acting Chairman
Michael DiLullo
Frank DeStefano

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Charles Elfman

ALSO PRESENT:

Pamela Kerr
Taryn Egerton
Stefanie Kesecker

Acting Chairperson Baldwin called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1. SITE PLAN-Parcel A Shoemaker Lane-Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative

Joe Perugini with Weston & Sampson Engineers Inc, presented this agenda item to the Board. He stated at the July 6, 2023 meeting where he presented a summary of the project there were outstanding Engineering comments, which have now been addressed and satisfied. He stated the plans were resubmitted and most of Engineerings' comments were clarifications that have now been provided. Mr. Perugini stated some of the comments were regarding the stormwater design and some updates to the stormwater report were resubmitted. The resubmittal includes spot elevations around the basin, added to the grading and drainage plan. He stated some stop bars and stop signs were added to both entrances and "authorized personnel only" signs were added at the entry. He went on to say there were 5 trees on the prior plan, but those coincided with the basins and they are now being proposed to be placed into the bottom of the basins. He stated the basins are very shallow, 18" to 2ft. deep and if the trees get wet it will not be an issue as they are very hardy and tolerant trees. This new placement of trees will help with screening the property. Ms. Baldwin stated Engineering had also reviewed and approved the placement of the trees. Ms. Kerr asked what type of trees. Mr. Perugini stated zelkova serrata and acer rubrum red autumn. Mr. Perugini stated 5 trees will be along the front, and none are proposed along the perimeter as they propose to use this area. He stated inside the site is for snow storage. Ms. Kerr asked about the triangle on the site plan in the middle of the parking lot. Mr. Perugini stated it was a grassy area and would also be used for snow storage. Ms. Kerr asked if there were any other locations that trees to or shrubs could be added. Mr. Perugini stated the basins cannot be used for snow storage and take up a lot of area on the site. Ms. Baldwin stated the Board was concerned with the aesthetics of the site, and questioned if 5 trees was the maximum that could be planted onsite. Mr. Perugini stated they could look into adding more shrubbery. Ms. Baldwin stated there would be a lot of dust and activity here and enhancing the presentation of the site would be beneficial. Mr. Perugini and Anna Bishop with the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative stated they will work with staff to add more shrubbery to the site.

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Motion was made by Mr. DeStefano and seconded by Mr. DiLullo to approve the SITE PLAN-Parcel A-Shoemaker Lane-Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative, with additional shrubbery being added where possible.

VOTE 3-0-0

2. SITE PLAN-685 South Westfield Street-DePalma

The Planning Board received a request to continue this agenda item to the August 17, 2023 Planning Board meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. DeStefano and seconded by Mr. DiLullo to continue this agenda item to the August 17, 2023 meeting.

VOTE 3-0-0

3. REVISED SITE PLAN-240 Bowles Road-SolBid, Inc

The Planning Board received notification the proponent was unable to make tonight's meeting.

Ms. Baldwin informed the Board that the array is changing in formation. Ms. Egerton informed the Board that the entire array is within the same footprint the Board previously approved, but is just longer, and an area on the plan that was curbed has been opened up to allow for emergency vehicles to access the site more easily.

Motion was made by Mr. DiLullo and seconded by Mr. DeStefano to approve the REVISED SITE PLAN-240 Bowles Road-SolBid, Inc., satisfying all professional comments.

VOTE 3-0-0

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-July 6, 2023

Motion was made by Mr. DeStefano and seconded by Mr. DiLullo to approve the July 6, 2023 minutes.

VOTE 3-0-0

5. Correspondence

There was nothing under this agenda item.

Motion was made by Mr. DeStefano and seconded by Mr. DiLullo to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE 3-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.