

I. Call to Order

Matt Bacewicz, Vice-Chair; Harland Miller, Secretary; Aaron Guyette; David Weissberger; Elsie Goodrich; Kaitlin Hayes

Guests Present: Bob DiPalma, Warren Irish, Chuck Bruch, Emma Lenchner, Kris Valley, Nicole Goulette, Mike Myers, Sarah Ray, Kristin Eaton, Andrew Wolf, Karl Marchessault, Joe Handy, Laurie Brisbin, Christianna Aiche

Call to Order by: Matt Bacewicz

Meeting Start Time: 6:37 PM

Minutes Recorded by: Eric Vorwald

II. Changes to the Agenda

None

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

Decision: 5 – 0

Motion by: Mr. Weissberger

Second: Mr. Guyette

Minutes/Notes: Motion to approve the minutes as presented.

V. Appeal of Zoning Administrator's Decision – 379 and 381 Main Street

Mr. DiPalma provided an overview of the process and the proceedings for the Board and the members of the public. He highlighted the information included in the appeal and the process for taking testimony and deliberation. Following Mr. DiPalma's information, Mr. Bacewicz asked those intending to provide testimony to swear or affirm their testimony would be true and factual. All in attendance agreed it would.

Following this, Mr. Bacewicz called on the applicant to make a presentation of the project including information on the question before the board. Mr. Marchessault, representing the applicant, provided information on the project and specific details related to the proposed fencing, screening, and landscaping that would be included as part of the project. He highlighted several discussions that had occurred with the neighbors about the screening in an effort to address their concerns. He also discussed other aspects of the project related to stormwater and grading. The Board asked several questions regarding the information presented and additional questions about the proposed access from Bellevue Street.

Following Mr. Marchessault's presentation, Mr. Bruch provided information related to his appeal. Specifically noting the concerns about the screening and the materials being used to address this issue. He also stated that he had engaged with the applicant and his representatives related to the matter. Mr. Bruch also indicated that, while he appreciated the outreach and discussions with the applicant, he wanted to ensure the neighbors had a chance to be heard.

Following Mr. Bruch's testimony, Mr. Bacewicz opened the hearing to others interested in providing testimony. Several residents of Bellevue Street spoke to the matter. Specific issues raised included concerns over stormwater; questions about the species of trees being selected for the buffer; safety and security of properties; emergency access from Bellevue Street; grading of the property; and similar issues. Following this testimony, Mr. Bacewicz invited Mr. Marchessault back to provide any additional testimony related to the comments made. Mr. Marchessault asked the Board consider granting an option to locate the fence more than one foot from the common property boundary to allow variety in placement.

With no additional testimony, the Hearing was concluded at 7:52pm. With the hearing concluded, Mr. Vorwald read into the record the list of exhibits included with this proceeding. The Board also agreed to move into deliberative session at the conclusion of the meeting.

VI. City Updates

Mr. Vorwald indicated he had no specific updates but would entertain any questions from the Board. No questions were asked.

VII. Other Business

Mr Vorwald noted the next regular meeting was scheduled for March 17th. He also stated that February 18th was the deadline for getting on that agenda. He indicated that if no applications were submitted, he would cancel the March meeting.

VIII. Adjourn

Motion by: Mr. Miller

Second: Ms. Goodrich

Meeting End Time: 8:02 PM