

**Middlesex County Planning Board Meeting
County Administration Building, 75 Bayard Street,
Freeholder Meeting Room, 1st Floor, New Brunswick, NJ 08901
January 14, 2020
3:30 P.M.
Minutes**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Matthew Vaughn, Chairman
Mr. Thomas Pollando, Vice Chairman
Mr. Ronald Sendner, County Engineer
Mr. Jason Freidman
Ms. Rani Goomer
Harold Parra, Esq., Acting Planning Board Counsel
Ms. Brenda L. Bleacher, Planning Board Secretary

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Freeholder Director Ronald G. Rios
Freeholder Charles Kenny
Mr. William Thomas III
Mr. Jonathan Kopf
Mr. Erik Wong, Alternate
Ms. Gail Lalla, Alternate

STAFF PRESENT

Mr. George M. Ververides, Director, Office of Planning
Ms. Mirah Becker, Supervisor, Environmental Sustainability
Mr. Anthony Gambilonghi, Supervisor, Transportation
Mr. Khalid Anjum, Department Head

PUBLIC PRESENT

Mr. Shawn Haussermann, South River
Mr. Charles Kratovil, New Brunswick Today

Chairman Vaughn called the meeting of the Planning Board to order at 3:30 p.m. in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act.

Salute to the Flag.

Moment of Silence.

The Secretary called the roll, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

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I. Open Public discussion on resolutions listed on this agenda only –

Mr. Charles Kratovil, New Brunswick Today, Reporter; Suydam Street, New Brunswick.

Mr. Kratovil asked about the RWJ Barnabas application on the agenda today?

Mr. Ververides stated that it is not on the Planning Board Agenda. It was on the Subdivision & Site Plan Committee Agenda.

Mr. Kratovil stated I have comments on the Barnabas application.

Mr. Ververides stated that the comments can be made under the Public portion of the Planning Board's agenda.

Mr. Kratovil stated later in the meeting?

Mr. Ververides stated yes.

Mr. Kratovil stated thank you.

Mr. Pollando motioned to close the public portion, seconded by Ms. Goomer. Motion was carried unanimously.

II. Administration:

Mr. Thomas Pollando

Mr. Vaughan turn the reorganization portion of the Middlesex County Planning Board agenda over to Mr. George Ververides, Director, Office of Planning who served as temporary Chairman.

A. Nominations for Chairman:

Mr. Ververides called for nominations for Chairman of the Planning Board for the Year 2020.

Mr. Pollando nominated Mr. Matthew Vaughn, seconded by Ms. Goomer. Hearing no further nominations, the nominations were closed. Roll call for Mr. Matthew Vaughn as Chairman for the Year 2020 was made, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Newly elected Chairman Matthew Vaughn conducted the balance of the meeting.

Nominations for Vice Chairman:

Chairman Vaughn called for nominations for Vice Chairman of the Planning Board for the Year 2020.

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Chairman Vaughan nominated Mr. Thomas Pollando, seconded by Mr. Sendner. Hearing no more nominations, the nominations were closed. Roll call for Mr. Thomas Pollando to serve as Vice Chairman for the Year 2020 was made, and the motion was carried unanimously.

B. Committee Organization for the Year 2020:

Chairman Vaughn appointed Planning Board members to the following Committees for the Year, 2020:

1. Administration:
Mr. Thomas Pollando
2. Environment:
Mr. Jason Freidman
3. Transportation:
Mr. Ronald Sendner, County Engineer
4. Development Review:
Mr. Matthew M. Vaughn, Chairman
Mr. Ronald Sendner, County Engineer
Mr. George M. Ververides
Mr. Jonathan Kopf
Mr. William Thomas III
(All remaining Planning Board Members serve as alternates)
5. Comprehensive Planning:
Ms. Rani Goomer

The Chairman of the Planning Board is an Ex-Officio Member of each Committee of the Planning Board.

Chairman Vaughn appointed Planning Board members to the following Advisory Committees for the Year 2020:

1. County Agricultural Development Board:
Ms. Rani Goomer
2. Lower Raritan River Watershed Association:
Mr. Jason Freidman
3. Transportation Coordinating Committee:
Mr. Ronald Sendner, County Engineer

C. Resolution 2020-01: Planning Board Counsel:

The Secretary read the resolution to appoint Steven D. Cahn, Esq., as Planning Board Counsel for a term to expire December 31, 2020.

A motion was made by Mr. Pollando and seconded by Mr. Freidman to adopt Resolution 2020-01 as read. Roll call to accept Resolution 2020-01 was made and carried unanimously.

D. Resolution 2020-02: 2020 Scheduled Meetings:

The Secretary read the resolution to adopt the scheduled meetings for the Middlesex County Planning Board. Meetings shall be conducted on the second Tuesday of each calendar month at 3:30 p.m. Special meetings may be called at the request of the Planning Board Chairman and by the Director of the Office of Planning.

Meetings of the Development Review Committee of the Middlesex County Planning Board shall be conducted on the second Tuesday of each calendar month at 3:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Ms. Goomer and seconded by Mr. Pollando to adopt Resolution 2020-02 as read. Roll call to accept Resolution# 2020-02 was made, and carried unanimously.

E. Resolution 2020-03: Agenda Schedule for Meetings:

The Secretary read the resolution to adopt the requirements of all meetings and the conducting of public business where an official action is discussed or taken. Meetings must be open to the public, and an outlined agenda must be followed at all official meetings where formal action is intended to be taken, as described in the By-Laws of the County Planning Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Pollando and seconded by Ms. Goomer to adopt Resolution 2020-03 as read. Roll call to accept Resolution# 2020-03 was made, and carried unanimously.

F. Approve Minutes of November 12, 2019.

Mr. Ververides reported that the minutes of the November 12, 2019 meeting are in the folder for approval.

Mr. Freidman moved, seconded by Ms. Goomer, to approve the minutes of November 12, 2019. Motion was carried unanimously.

G. Review of Minutes of December 10, 2019.

Mr. Ververides reported that the minutes of December 10, 2019 are before the Planning Board for review and for approval at the January 14, 2020 meeting.

H. Financial Report –

Mr. Ververides reported that the Financial Report from January to November 2019 is before the Planning Board for approval.

Mr. Pollando moved, seconded by Ms. Goomer, to approve the Financial Report from January to November 2019. Motion was carried unanimously.

I. Committee Report – None

J. Summary of Zoning and Master Plan Revisions - Mr. Ververides stated that the Summary of Zoning and Master Plan Revisions report is in the folder for review and information.

Mr. Pollando moved, seconded by Ms. Goomer, to approve the Summary of Zoning and Master Plan Revisions report. Motion was carried unanimously.

K. Correspondence – All correspondence received since the last meeting has been filed in the Office of Planning for reference.

III. Environmental Sustainability:
Mr. Jason Freidman

A. Committee Report for December 2019:

Ms. Becker stated that Destination 2040 Environmental Sustainability has been assigned topic briefs consisting of Environment and Natural Resources; Sustainability and Community Resilience; and Healthy and Inclusive Communities. An outline and schedule are attached.

Water Quality Management Plan: Staff has met with Plainsboro and NJDEP to ensure that the County's build-out methodology is implemented on behalf of Plainsboro Township.

Water Quality Management Plan Amendment: A Public Hearing regarding the Frankie Scotto Property, Block 37, Lot 12.14, South Brunswick Township, Middlesex County, will be held on February 5, 2020.

Ms. Becker stated that the Site-Specific Amendments included: a new application for Windsor Associates, South Brunswick Township. Meetings will be held between the Applicant and the Township of South Brunswick regarding the level of completeness and support by the Township.

Clark Family Enterprises was granted approval by the Board of Freeholders on November 18, 2019 and was adopted by NJDEP on December 9, 2019.

Cranbury-Dey Road will be considered by the Board of Freeholders at their Public Meeting on January 29, 2020.

The County Agriculture Development Board has two open PIG applications for farmland preservation: (1) the Estate of Anthony Zimbicki, Sr., Monroe; and (2) the Estate of Ernest Bergfelder, East Brunswick.

There are currently three right to farm applications before the County Agricultural Development Board: (1) an application for mulching; (2) an application for a horse auction site allegedly to be operating horse rodeo events; and (3) an application for the installation of roof top solar panels on preserved farmland.

Mr. Pollando moved, seconded by Mr. Sendner, to approve the Committee Report for December 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Transportation:

Mr. Ronald Sendner, County Engineer

A. Committee Report for December 2019:

Mr. Gambilonghi stated that the revised Transit Guide is under review by Keep Middlesex Moving and NJ Transit.

Mr. Gambilonghi reported on the Federal Grant from NJTPA for the Local Safety Program. A kick-off meeting was held on December 17, 2019.

The Livingston Avenue Complete Street Project improving safety and mobility for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists, is expected to begin construction in early Spring.

Mr. Pollando moved, seconded by Mr. Friedman, to approve the Committee Report for December 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Development Review:
Mr. Matthew M. Vaughn

A. Committee Reports for September through December 2019:

Mr. Ververides stated that the Committee's monthly activities development reports for September through December 2019 are unavailable at this time.

VI. Comprehensive Planning:
Ms. Rani Goomer

A. Update: There was no report.

VII. Other Matters:

The next meeting is Tuesday, February 11, 2020.

VIII. Public Comments:

Mr. Charles Kratovil, New Brunswick Today, asked if you are giving me a time limit?

Mr. Ververides stated that there is a 5-minute time limit.

Mr. Kratovil stated and wanted to know about information which has been brought to his attention that there is going to be a change of a new Director of County Planning is there a new person being hired? Who is the new Director, and will there be any changes at the County and the Planning Board?

Mr. Ververides stated that as far as he knew the Director of Planning will be starting on January 21, 2020. I don't know anything more; you will have to talk to the County Administrator. I have no further information at this time.

Mr. Kratovil stated I heard that you will be staying on as a Consultant.

Mr. Ververides stated I will be staying on.

Mr. Kratovil stated that the new Director of County Planning is Doug Greenfeld and will be starting on January 21, 2020.

How long have you been Planning Director?

Mr. Ververides stated 34 years.

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Mr. Kratovil stated I have an additional question? Does the Planning Board make audio recordings?

Ms. Bleacher answered yes.

Mr. Ververides stated yes there is an audio recording.

Mr. Kratovil stated that he was hoping to address the RWJ Barnabas application as a cautionary word of warning that there is a Rutgers campus near the site. The public walkway is not a walkway and is not public. At the New Brunswick Planning Board meeting last night there was a resolution and a statement made that a traffic signal was to be installed at the corner of French and New Streets. Mr. Kratovil wants to follow up on that since it has been 15 years and he would like to put it on the staff's radar. I would hope that the County Planning Board would join me to put pressure on RWJ to install the traffic signal.

Mr. Vaughan stated thank you very much.

Mr. Pollando motioned to close the public portion, seconded by Mr. Sendner. Motion carried unanimously.

IX. Adjournment:

Since there was no further business to come before the Planning Board, on a motion made by Mr. Pollando, seconded by Mr. Sendner, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Bleacher
Planning Board Secretary