



Deerfield Planning Board

Monday January 8, 2024, 6:30 pm

8 Conway Street, South Deerfield MA 01373

Deerfield Planning Board Meeting Minutes

Pursuant to a notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the Planning Board was held on January 8, 2024, at 6:30 at the Town offices, 8 Conway Street, Deerfield, MA and remotely on Zoom. Meetings normally held at the Municipal Offices are being held remotely, with adequate, alternative means of public access and, where required, public participation provided, in accordance with the Governor's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c.30A § 20. Meetings are typically broadcast on Frontier Community Access Television (FCAT). Meeting available on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVIMsrPHU6g>

Location: Hybrid – Zoom and Main Meeting Room, 8 Conway Street, South Deerfield MA

Planning Board member present: Denise Mason, Chair; Andrea Leibson; Kathy Watroba (remote); Emily Gaylord; Satu Zoller; Kathy Sylvester

Also present: Amy Hahn, Administrative Assistant (remote); Christopher Dunne, Planning & Economic Development Coordinator (remote); M.A. Swedlund & Ann Buchanan, Solar Energy Committee.

1. **Call to Order:** Gaylord read the introduction. Mason called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

2. **Review minutes:**

Motion to accept minutes of 12/4/2023 as written – Leibson Second – Gaylord

Vote: Mason, aye – Leibson, aye – Watroba, aye – Gaylord, aye – Sylvester, aye – Zoller, abstain (5-0-1)

3. **New Business**

- M.A. Swedlund of the Deerfield Solar Energy Committee presents a slide show regarding state solar energy goals and opportunities. Planning Board members vote unanimously to support the Solare Energy Committee in their endeavors and to concentrate on utilizing solar for municipal projects, starting with the Tilton Library renovation to begin in February.

4. **Old Business**

- None

5. **Other business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the posting of the meeting**

- No Other Business

6. Reports (committees, seminars, etc.)

- Andrea reports that the Open Space and Recreation Committee is actively working on an application for Community Preservation Act funds to permanently protect four town-owned properties in collaboration with Franklin Land Trust.
- There's a building committee meeting tomorrow for the library, with a tentative ground-breaking date in early February.
- Kathy provides updates on the Community Preservation Committee (CPC), mentioning a public hearing on January 31st for town residents' input. There's a vacancy on the CPC, and the senior housing project aims to close on the St James property in April, exploring the viability of incorporating the church into the development.

7. Review Mail

- Abutting town hearing notices & decisions. No discussion

8. Next Meetings: 2/4, 6:30pm

9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn – Gaylord

Second -- Leibson

Vote: Mason, aye – Leibson, aye – Watroba, aye -- Gaylord, aye -- Sylvester -- aye – Zoller, Aye (6-0-0)

Adjourned at 7:17 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Hahn, Planning Board Administrative Assistant