

**SANBORNTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES-October 3, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.
Town Office Meeting Room-573 Sanborn Road**

I. The Meeting was called to order by the Nina Gardner in the absence of Chair, Franz Vail, at 7:12 P.M.

II. Members present: Nina Gardner, Sam Swartz, Brandon Deacon, Select Board representative and Kyle Orde, a representative of the Planning Board. Alternate Barbara Whetstone was also present.

III. Nina Gardner agreed to take Minutes of the Meeting. She asked if Sam Swartz could also take notes to assist her with the Minutes.

IV. Distribute Minutes of the September 15, 2022 Meeting for background for the meeting tonight. The Chair had not yet reviewed the Minutes as he has been away.

V. Continued Public Hearing for COA Christopher Abbott solar array Tax May 27 Lot 34 Sanborn Road.

The purpose of the meeting tonight was to finalize review of the planting plan that is to serve as buffer and visual screen between the panels and Sanborn Road. The final review and approval is needed in order that Mr. Abbott can move forward with the installation of the solar panels. Approval of the planting plan will effectively remove the "conditional" nature of the approval voted on September 15, 2022.

There were no abutters present.

Chris Abbott began his presentation explaining that he had reduced the scope of the project from 24 to 20 panels thereby removing site plan approval from the Planning Board. He will need to amend the application submitted to the Planning Board to reflect this change. He indicated that he had already done that through his agent at Granite State Solar.

He indicated that he had taken the recommendation of Franz Vail for using Nine Bark plants as the front of the buffer with Christmas trees planted in 2-3 rows behind them a filler. The Christmas trees will be bought at the state nursery as new stock at approximately 1 ½ feet tall. They will be planted and harvested at 6-8 feet in height and replanted. Chris mentioned that cost was a factor in purchasing the nine bark trees and they would be planted 3 to 6 ft. apart to adjust to the spacing of the array (4 trees on one side, 5 on the back) and using the topography to help shield the panels. Christmas trees would form the visual barrier on the south side end and extend to the lawn's edge away from the array.

Following discussion of the proposal with Mr. Abbott, Kyle Orde commented that it was his opinion that the tree planting was unnecessary.

Sam Swartz moved, seconded by Brandon Deacon, to approve the proposed tree planting plan submitted by Christopher Abbott, which includes 10 nine bark plants (trees) on the west and north west side of the array as a first line visual barrier with two rows of Christmas trees plants spaced 6-8 feet apart as a secondary barrier. And from the south side, Christmas trees planted

at the lawn's edge, north of the House, spaced 6-8 feet apart, planting approximately 6 trees. Planting to be done in the spring.

The motion passed with the following voting in favor: Sam Swartz, Brandon Deacon, Nina Gardner and Kyle Orde. Barbara Whetstone participated in the discussion, but did not vote.

In the event that some documents need to be signed prior to the return of Franz Vail, Nina Gardner and Sam Swartz would serve in that capacity. Franz has been following correspondence on this matter while on vacation.

Barbara Whetstone reported that Selectman Bob Lambert had reported to the Recreation Commission that files in the current Town Office need to be cleaned out if possible before the move to the new building.

Sam Swartz briefly mentioned his porch project and it as felt that this should be a matter reviewed and discussed when the Chairman was available.

VII. Other Business.

There was no further business brought before the Commission.

VIII. Next Meeting.

Call of the Chair.

IX. Adjournment.

On a Motion made by Sam Swartz, seconded by Brandon Deacon, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M. The vote was unanimous.

Minutes prepared from notes taken by Nina Gardner and Sam Swartz.
Respectfully submitted by Nina Gardner, Acting Secretary

