

Minutes
Energy Advisory Committee/Design Review Committee
April 27, 2020 7:00PM by Zoom

- I. Call to Order. 7:10 PM. Attending: EAC: Valerie White, Lajos Kamocsay (chair), Silas Fyler, George Aronson. DRC: Ted Galeota, Sidd Jeevan, Colin Barbera, Ron Goodman, Paul Wen, Paul Driscoll, Julie Rowe. Sharon TV Max Goodman. DSD: Jenny Nicolas, Alex Norman, Tim Magner. Finance Ctee: Ira Miller. Observing: Rob Maidman, Cheryl Schnitzer (Sustainable Sharon Coalition), Ellen Bordman, Kathy Farrell
- II. Approval of minutes from April 15, 2020. Approved unanimously
- III. Consider/vote on recommendations to Selectboard: Abutters meetings were hosted last week. They “went fantastic”; thanks to all Tetratex and DSD folks. Some East side-abutters requested additional landscaping mitigations. Alex said there was discussion about a more expansive landscaping plan with Tree Warden. Gavins: The smaller canopy is now tilted away from Paul Wen’s house. Is snack shed short enough to fit underneath? Yes. Paul Driscoll says he doesn’t see a problem with the roof. Silas: Why not waves for small canopy? Alex: We chose the same type as the longer one. Ron Goodman asked about square footage differences, about 8 percent. Alex: Doesn’t know why. Will check. Shows 56,000 sq. feet. Ron: 8 percent more square footage will give more capacity. Alex: Yes. A little boost in system size. Different frame size added up. Silas: Not wave design any more. Can Alex confirm capacity? He is doing math, will get back to us. Paul Wen had a question about location of transformer. Alex: It hasn’t changed from Option 4. Sid: For the front canopy, they will be cutting trees, for ten feet clearance. Paul Wen: Wants to be sure the plan leaves certain evergreens in place, wants to preserve as many trees as possible, wants to specify which trees are to be left. Alex agrees. Paul Driscoll: We will have to run the new plan by the fire chief about getting to back field. Alex said no problem—the height can be altered if necessary. There is also an issue of groundwater pipes near uprights. Someone wondered: Will the flagpole have to be moved. Alex said “noted”. Jenny: We tried to do quick turnaround after abutters meeting. We don’t have all details. We can do more detail of granularity on sizing. Ron Goodman wants more compensation to the town if the larger size makes for more generation, or drop it down to what the town voted on. Alex: we can adjust square footage if necessary. Sid: There are so many moving parts. Can we reduce variable in line of sight assessment? Silas: Town meeting didn’t vote on square footage, only on capacity. Lajos: Some details will change because of interconnection study. Some can’t be answered until interconnection study is complete. George: this is a CONCEPT, not a design plan. We will need to have a process. Paul Driscoll: Sharon Soccer Association has no opinions about the design except regarding child safety and soccer availability. Paul Wen doesn’t want to vote until he knows about trees. Ted: no mitigation shown. Tim: We don’t have specifics yet about trees. Final mitigation plans will be after interconnection study. Lajos: Can we have a discussion about where trees go at a later time? Tim: yes. George: Part of recommendation to SB is to have a process for arriving at mitigation. Julie: are we just waiting for interconnection? Lajos: we can’t finalize everything now. We will have to come back to finer details,

Conservation Commission, water management, tree mitigation. Tim: if we can decide on conceptual layout, we expect to work with the town administrator about storm water and work with Paul Wen. Sid: Process question. Based on what we know, there has to be some mitigation, right? *Landfill*: Alex and Tim: Layout can change based on post-closure permit. New concept based on slope of land. What's shown is a smaller system, based on what they think they can build right now. Exact footprint cannot be determined. This plan capacity is 5.1-2 DC megawatts. Approximately 3-3.5 AC megawatts. We haven't run models on this. The reduction in generation capacity could decrease site lease payment. It will change again. Primary change is due to SE facing instead of S. Ted: Wants cones on corners so that abutters can see where the panels will be. Doesn't like wooden fence. Alex: doesn't like fence either. A fence doesn't help screen if the observers are elevated. We can use the unspent cost of fence towards mitigation with landscaping. Sid: Thanks to Alex and Tim. Triangle shown in new diagram is left out to please abutters. Area to the south will have to have panels. What are the three or four things that they can say? Tim: Tree warden: may not be able to plant trees. Jenny: EAC/Design panel has power. Alex: we can't have weekly meetings. There will be future abutters meetings. Tim: what if we solve backwards? What is the wish list? We can't change the topography. 100 percent screening is not possible because of the topography. What are three or four suggestions from the Azalea Road community? Sid: relocation of access road, tall trees in mitigation. Alex: can't make progress on requests. We're stuck because we don't know things. Rob Maidman: This is residential instead of commercial. What DRC would like to hear is what they CAN do. What would be helpful is that you note down concerns and do what you can. Tomorrow's Selectboard is going to consider these things and make a determination. Tim: We pledge to meet these requests. We are reacting to abutter meetings and committed to solving issues, but there are a bunch of unknowns. Ron Goodman: we're talking about mitigation for different locations (residential) . . . we need shrubs to block the view. We have all spent a lot of time on this. We need to make recommendations. What is shown on presentation is thin, because we won't know till later because of permitting. We need best case scenario. Ashland looked wonderful. Alex: we rushed to get this presentation together after the abutters meetings, will need to come back at a later date. Lajos: what do they need approval from SB on? Alex: when do we decide what to send to SB? We should have taken time to make landscaping plans. Can we wait till next SB meeting? Lajos: better plan is to spend more time on it. Alex: we will come back with what we want to see. Lajos: what I understand from Sid is coverage, visual barrier, possibly trees or a mound. Sid: fence is inadequate, need more like what we've done at Gavins and East. Ted: let DSD go. Lajos agrees. DSD leaves. *Gavins again*: Silas moves, VW seconds, to recommend option 5 with mitigations. Paul Wen: is against it. Size difference is a critical part. Vote of EAC unanimous in favor. Lengthy drafting of recommendations. Design Review Committee decision not to hold vote on Gavins recommendations tonight. George moves, Silas seconds EAC adoption of the recommendations as drafted. Valerie moved to table, Lajos seconded. Motion to table fails, 2 to 2. Motion to adopt recommendation fails, 2 to 2. Abutters at East requested mitigation to screen parking lot and painting. Should tell this to Selectboard.

- IV. Prepare for April 28 Selectboard meeting. Give SB update that it is too early to give recommendations for Landfill.

- V. Group discussion and topics not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours of the meeting. None.
- VI. Schedule next meeting May 4, 2020 7:00PM
- VII. Adjourn 10:09PM