

## **PLANNING BOARD MINUTES MAY 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

The meeting of the Planning Board of the Borough of Somerville was called to order by Chair Bernard Navatto at 7:00 PM and stated that adequate notice of this meeting had been provided in accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act”.

**Board Members Present:** Bernard Navatto, Mayor Dennis Sullivan, Councilman Roger Vroom, Deidre Rosinski, Andrea Adair, Arthur Akins, Jason Kraska, Larry Cleveland, Lisa Werner

**Board Members Absent:** Al Kerestes, Christopher Adickes

**Professional Present:** Kara Kaczynski, Esq. Board Attorney and Michael Cole, Board Planner and Engineer

### **Approval Minutes**

Upon a motion by Jason Kraska, seconded by Deidre Rosinski, the minutes of April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, were approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call      Aye: Bernard Navatto, Mayor Dennis Sullivan, Councilman Roger Vroom, Deidre Rosinski, Andrea Adair, Arthur Akins, Jason Kraska, Larry Cleveland, Lisa Werner

Nay: None

Abstain: None

### **ARB Consideration**

School of Rock  
14 Davenport Street  
B114 L36.01

Upon a motion by Deidre Rosinski, seconded by Jason Kraska, ARB Consideration for 14 Davenport Street was unanimously approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call      Aye: Bernard Navatto, Mayor Dennis Sullivan, Councilman Roger Vroom, Deidre Rosinski, Andrea Adair, Arthur Akins, Jason Kraska, Larry Cleveland, Lisa Werner

Nay: None

Abstain: None

## **Items Not on the Agenda**

Ordinance 2706 -23-0417 Amending Chapter 102 Section 74 removing the requirement for minor site plans for sidewalk cafes that are seasonal in nature and establishing the regulations for seasonal sidewalks cafes in chapter 150 article III.

The final recommendation was prepared by Board Engineer Michael Cole on behalf of the planning board and was discussed briefly. Chairman called to the board for any questions or comment. Mrs. Rosinski noted that #3 of the recommendation should be corrected to tree planters rather than tree grates to ensure there is no confusion between the new grates that were installed.

See transcript.

### Stormwater Management

Discussion was had regarding DEP's new regulations that are expected to be published in the coming weeks and how they should be reviewed in terms of stormwater management and flood plans. Chairman Navatto suggested that there should be a comprehensive review of the newly published regulations and asked that the board authorize Michael Cole, Board Planner and Engineer to do so. The board discussed areas of focus and where stricter standards may need to be implemented based on the new published recommendations from the DEP. Mr. Kraska provided information and update on stormwater management that was reviewed by a committee that he was involved in so that those standards would be taken into consideration in Michael Cole's Review. Chairman Navatto called to vote the authorization of Michael Cole, Board Planner and Engineer to prepare a stormwater management plan recommendation.

Upon a motion by Deidre Rosinski, seconded by Jason Kraska, stormwater management plan recommendation was unanimously approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call      Aye: Bernard Navatto, Mayor Dennis Sullivan, Councilman Roger Vroom,  
Deidre Rosinski, Andrea Adair, Arthur Akins, Jason Kraska, Larry Cleveland,  
Lisa Werner

Nay: None

Abstain: None

See transcript.

## Affordable / Workforce Housing

The planning board has been requested to examine how affordable and workforce housing can be incorporated into development, redevelopment plans, agreements, and establishment of land use ordinances. Chairman Navatto voiced that his goal was to have this review completed by the end of the summer as the board is currently slim on application and there is additional time to dedicate on this. He asked that the planning board authorize him to work with the clerk and administration directly in order to provide recommendation to council. Discussion was had over a false publication stating that the planning board had made approvals to the redevelopment zone although it had been a redevelopment zone for quite some time. Chairman Navatto called to vote the authorization of himself to work with the Borough Clerk and Administrator Kevin Sulka on the affordable / workforce housing recommendation to also include review of the comprehensive presentation supplied by Ms. McManus which was reviewed by borough council on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Upon a motion by Deidre Rosinski, seconded by Jason Kraska, authorization to allow Chairman Navatto to provide affordable / workforce housing recommendation was unanimously approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call      Aye: Bernard Navatto, Mayor Dennis Sullivan, Councilman Roger Vroom, Deidre Rosinski, Andrea Adair, Arthur Akins, Jason Kraska, Larry Cleveland, Lisa Werner

Nay: None

Abstain: None

See transcript.

### **Chairman's Comments**

No comments.

### **Meeting Open to the Public**

No comments.

### **Adjourn**

Upon a motion by Deidre Rosinski, seconded by Jason Kraska, the adjournment of the planning board meeting of May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, was unanimously approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call      Aye: Bernard Navatto, Mayor Dennis Sullivan, Councilman Roger Vroom, Deidre Rosinski, Andrea Adair, Arthur Akins, Jason Kraska, Larry Cleveland, Lisa Werner

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.