

City of Cape May Planning Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday – August 12, 2014

Opening: The meeting of the City of Cape May Planning Board was called to order by Chairman William Bezaire, at 7:00 PM. In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice was provided.

Roll Call:	Mr. Bezaire, Chairperson	Present
	Mr. Shuler, Vice Chairperson	Present
	Mr. Jones	Present
	Mayor Dr. Mahaney	Present
	Mr. Elwell	Present
	Dr. France	Present
	Mr. Murray	Present
	Ms. Weeks	Present
	Mr. Winkworth	Present
	Mr. VanDeVaarst, 1 st Alernate	Present
	Mr. Macciocchi, 2 nd Alternate	Present

Also Present: George Neidig, Esquire – Board Solicitor
Craig Hurless, PE, PP, CME Associate – Polistina & Associates
Jill Devlin, Board Assistant.
Edie Kopsitz, Secretary

Chairman Bezaire announced Cape May City Council made a decision, took action and passed a resolution that elevated Dr. Gerry France from 1st Alternate to Full Class 4 board membership. Mr. VanDeVaarst was elevated from 2nd Alternate to 1st Alternate per standard procedure. It was also noted that City Council appointed John Macciocchi as 2nd Alternate to the board.

Resolutions:

Swains, Block 1040, Lot 2.01, # 8-12-2014:1. Motion made by Mr. Shuler. Seconded by Ms. Weeks and **carried 6-0.** Those in favor: Mr. Elwell, Ms. Weeks, Dr. France, Mr. Jones, Mr. Shuler and Mr. Bezaire. Those opposed: None. Those abstaining: Mr. Murray, Mayor Dr. Mahaney and Mr. Winkworth.

Cape Jetty LLC, Block 1012, Lots 9,10,12,15 & 16, # 8-12-2014:2. Motion made by Mr. Murray. Seconded by Mr. Jones and **carried 7-0.** Those in favor: Mr. Elwell, Ms. Weeks, Mr. Murray, Dr. France, Mayor Dr. Mahaney, Mr. Jones and Mr. Shuler. Those opposed: None. Those abstaining: Mr. Winkworth and Mr. Bezaire.

DiDonato, Block 1172 Lot 4, # 8-12-2014:3. Discussion took place regarding the late addition of this resolution to the agenda. Mayor Dr. Mahaney suggested that given the unusual manner in which the resolution was distributed to the board, not through the normal channels of distribution

and the importance of the case, that this be held until the next meeting. Mr. Shuler agreed and asked that all members read the document carefully before the September meeting.

Motion made by Mayor Dr. Mahaney to move # 8-12-2014:3 DiDonato, to the September 9, 2014 Planning Board Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Murray and **carried 8-0.** Those in favor: Mr. Elwell, Ms. Weeks, Mr. Murray, Dr. France, Mayor Dr. Mahaney, Mr. Jones, Mr. Shuler and Mr. Bezaire. Those opposed: None. Those abstaining: Mr. Winkworth.

BUSINESS: CREATIVE PLACEMAKING PLAN

Chairman Bezaire turned the discussion regarding the Creative Placemaking Plan over to Mayor Dr. Mahaney.

Mayor Dr. Mahaney stated there is an opportunity under the Office of State Planning Advocacy, under the Lt. Governors office, and also the Sustainable New Jersey program, to add a discretionary element to the Master Plan by having the Planning Board adopt a Creative Placemaking Plan which was prepared at the City's request by Jim Rutala. If the board were to adopt the Creative Placemaking Plan, it would become another element in the Master Plan process.

The purpose of the Creative Placemaking Plan is to create and promote arts, history, culture and environment in the city. Mayor Dr. Mahaney noted the city of Cape May already has a rich tradition of doing this which was initiated by organizations such as The Mid Atlantic Center for the Arts, The Nature Center and Cape May Stage.

There are already 8 such agreements in the City of Cape May presently, which puts Cape May far ahead of the other towns. Sustainable Jersey and the Office of State Planning Advocacy are starting to inject into the state planning process the element of Economic Development more strongly and how you reach out and do other types of economic development beyond the normally thought of routes and strategies.

Mayor Dr. Mahaney stated this would be due by the end of the month. If the city can submit it with the adoption by the Planning Board, in addition to renewing our Silver Certification, which is the highest certification you can achieve under Sustainable Jersey, it would add 30 points and be an added action we would have that would result in a large grant to the city that would embellish this and take on a project.

Mr. Murray commented that the presentation Mr. Rutala gave to City Council regarding the Creative Placemaking Plan was very good. He also stated the website is very good.

Mr. Shuler questioned if Kiwanis Park would be considered for improvement under the Creative Placemaking Plan, stating it is not identified as a unique place as Lafayette Park is.

Mayor Dr. Mahaney mentioned on Thursday August 21st, the City Manager, City Engineer, Public Works Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and he plan on walking Kiwanis Park. They collectively feel the retaining wall needs to be reinstalled; the brush that has overgrown

from the tennis court side needs to be taken care of so people can walk around the entire park, and the storm water drain pipe on the Physic Estate and tennis court lot has either collapsed or is clogged and needs to be opened up. In addition, they would like to have a bike path put in on Madison Street.

Mr. Bezaire commented that the only item missing from the plan was any mention regarding parking. Mayor Dr. Mahaney noted that parking is to be handled under the Master Plan under the component that is already in there.

After discussion Mr. Neidig read the resolution for the Creative Placemaking Plan to the board.

Motion made by Mr. Murray. Seconded by Mr. Winkworth and **carried 9-0.** Those in favor: Mr. Elwell, Ms. Weeks, Mr. Murray, Dr. France, Mayor Dr. Mahaney, Mr. Winkworth, Mr. Jones, Mr. Shuler and Mr. Bezaire. Those opposed: None. Those abstaining: None.

Chairman Bezaire announced the closed session portion of the agenda.

Motion to adjourn meeting for closed session by Mr. Elwell at 7:30 PM. Seconded by Dr. France, with all in favor.

MEETING THEN MOVED INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 7:30 PM TO DISCUSS A PENDING LEGAL MATTER.

The meeting resumed from closed session at 8:04 PM.

Motion made by Mr. Elwell to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM, with all in favor.

A verbatim recording of said meeting is on file at the Construction/Zoning Office.

Respectfully submitted: Jill Devlin, Board Assistant