Grand Island CAB minutes -Special Meeting
June 14, 2017

Attendance:
CAB members- Paul Yaeger, Diane Evans, Alice Gerard, Sam Akinbami, Jeffrey Green, Ron Rezebak, Ed Standora, Robert Wynne, Suzanne Tomkins, Ray Billica (town board liaison)

Guests - Frank McCleneghen, Kristin Savard, Dan Spitzer, Bev Kinney

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M. Diane Evans, CAB Chair explained that this was a special meeting called to discuss the tabling of a proposed solar array project at Bedell Road and Industrial Drive. The issue to be discussed is the request from the CAB for the project to include a 25 foot vegetative buffer along the border of the property on the I190 corridor. She then invited discussion on the topic.

Frank McCleneghen and Kristin Savard explained that they agreed to the 25 foot buffer at the previous town board meeting. They added that tall trees would be cut down to avoid any interference with the solar array, otherwise the vegetative buffer will remain intact. Ray Billica explained that the matter was tabled at the previous meeting and sent to the CAB because an attendee expressed an environmental concern.

Dan Spitzer, the attorney for the Town of Grand Island, clarified the legal authority under site plan law to require mitigating conditions, i.e. a buffer. He also referenced a study regarding carbon offsets provided by solar arrays.

Robert Wynne offered to plant native pollinating perennials in the buffer. Frank McCleneghen suggested discussing after the array is installed.

After all present were invited to discuss, the CAB voted unanimously to support this project with the recommendation that a 25 foot buffer remain in place along the property adjacent to the I190 corridor.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 6:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Tomkins