

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF CHESTER PLANNING BOARD
APRIL 28, 2015
REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Richard RAMSDELL, Chairman
 Anthony LASPINA, Member
 Vincent RAPPA, Member
 Gene WINTERS, Member
 Harold PRESSBERG, Attorney
 Mark EDSALL, Engineer
 Missy SOSLER, Planning Board Secretary

NOT PRESENT: Robert Jankelunas and John Orr

REGULAR MEETING – 7:10PM

Chairman Ramsdell opened the Regular Meeting at 7:10PM.

1. MINUTES

Review drafts of February 3 and February 24, 2015 Planning Board Minutes.

MOTION was made by Member Vincent Rappa, seconded by Gene Winters, to ACCEPT THE FEBRUARY 3 AND FEBRUARY 24, 2015 MEETING MINUTES AS DRAFTED. ***MOTION*** passed 4-0.

2. Correspondence

#15-02 Amended Site Plan BYK USA, Inc. – Reply from OCDP
 #15-02 Amended Site Plan BYK USA, Inc. – DEC Permit

3. Code Enforcement Officer Report

No report; John Orr was not at the meeting. He was away at a conference.

4. Projects for Review

Project #15-02	Project Name: Amended Site Plan for BYK USA, Inc.
Applicant/Owner:	BYK USA, Inc.
Location:	48 Leone Lane
Re:	Construction of a 6,000 sq. ft. addition to the existing facility and a canopy over several of the rear loading dock doors.
Presented By:	Larry Torro and Rob Brophy

Chairman Ramsdell asked Mark Edsall if there was anything new regarding this project. Mark Edsall advised that, after speaking with Larry Torro, he concluded that this month's site plan is identical to last months. He advised that the only reason the project was carried over from last month to this month was because we were awaiting a response from the OCDP and the Town of Chester. At the last meeting the Planning Board concluded SEQRA and made the classification as unlisted. Mark Edsall concluded that there are no open engineering issues.

Chairman asked if the Board had any further questions and if there would be any conditions other than payment of fees. There were no questions and no other conditions suggested.

Chairman Ramsdell proposed the following motion:

* Motion to grant Amended Site Plan Approval for the plan dated 3/4/15, revised 4/28/15, based on the following conditions:

- (1) All fees are to be paid in full.

MOTION made by Member Gene Winters, seconded by Member Vincent Rappa. ***MOTION*** passed 4-0.

5. General Discussion

Chairman asked about the site walk which was done on the Townsend property. The following people participated in the site walk: Cliff Patrick, Town of Chester Historian, Gene Winters, Anthony LaSpina, Bill Keller, Town of Chester Water Department, Mark Siemers and "Doc" Donald Bain, Environmental Educator/Historian at Sterling Forest State Park, retired. Cliff advised that they all walked the property, but did not find any grave stones. He advised that Bill Keller remarked that he remembers that when he was a child he would walk through this area, and the grave stones were still standing. He also recalled 2 areas which were burial sites. One was in the same general area as the reports we have and the other was in a different location on the site. There were appearances of subsidence which may indicate burials, but nothing he would call definitive.

Bill Keller and Mark Siemers discussed bringing in ground penetrating radar equipment which would definitely identify sites and extents of burials. It was left that Bill and Mark would work on the details.

Cliff Patrick advised that they suspect there may be as many as twelve family graves. He advised that Bill Keller remembers a large number of burials on the lower left side of the property as you enter the property from the Main Street side. Anthony LaSpina advised that before the project can move on, we have to locate where all of the graves are. Gene Winters advised that there is a definite possibility that there are two burial sites on the property; one was for the Townsend family members and the other site was, most likely, a Potter's Field. (A Potter's Field is known as a place for the burial of unknown or indigent people.) Cliff advised that the Potter's Field may be made up of the remains of slaves and servants.

Cliff advised that Bill Keller told him that he recalled the Potter's Field as being a series of unmarked fieldstones, and the Townsend family burial site had engraved stones throughout it. Cliff advised that in addition to the radar study they will try to contact a few people in the Village of Chester who may have knowledge of the site. Cliff will be reaching out to a gentleman, who is approximately 74 years old, and has lived in the Village his entire life. He will also be contacting the Townsend Family Foundation regarding the burial site.

Chairman Ramsdell asked if anyone had anything else to discuss and, as there were no other comments, ***MOTION** was made by Member Vincent Rappa, second by Member Gene Winters to ADJOURN THE MEETING. Motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Missy Sosler
Planning Board Secretary