

**Borough of Watchung  
Planning Board Meeting  
January 17<sup>th</sup> , 2017**

**Minutes**

Chairwoman Schaefer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Salute to the flag. The Chair called for a roll call. Present at the call of the roll were:

Schaefer (present) Boyd (present) Desnoyers (present) Ellis (absent) Haveson (present) Sopko (present) Pennett (present) Pote (present) Speeney (present) Spingler(present) D'Annunzio(present)

Linnus (present) Herits (absent)

Chairwoman Schaefer indicated that there was a quorum to conduct business and stated that this meeting was being held in compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 of the Open Public Meetings Act and proper notification of this meeting has been made.

Mr. Linnus swore in the following members of the Board: Ms. Schaefer, Mr. Boyd, Mr. Haveson, Mr. D'Annunzio, and Mr. Sopko.

The following nominations were made, seconded, accepted and carried on voice votes: Chairwoman Tracee Schaefer, Vice-Chair Don Speeney and Secretary Peter Desnoyers.

The secretary read the following Resolutions into the record PB17-R1 (2017 scheduled Planning Board meetings), PB17-R2 (adoption of By-Laws), PB17-R3 designation of official newspapers) and PB17-R4 appointment of board professionals). They were moved, seconded and carried on voice votes.

Mr. Linnus thanked the board for the appointment. Madame Chair noted that Mr. Herits will be sworn in at our February meeting.

Chairwoman Schaefer made the following appointments:

Site Plan and Subdivision Committee:

Donald Speeney, Ellen Spingler Alan Haveson and Tracee Schaefer

Ordinance Committee:

Donald Speeney, George Sopko, Frank Linnus Alan Haveson and Tracee Schaefer

County Planning Liaison:

Donald Speeney, Al Ellis, Stephen Pote and Tracee Schaefer

Environmental Committee:

Karen Pennett

Finance Committee:

Maryann Amiano, Tracee Schaefer, and Ellen Spingler

The Chair noted that at the end of the year we will start our Master Plan re-exam although it is not due until 2021, she would like to get a head start on it and at that point will select a committee. Madame Schaefer made motion to approve the minutes of November 15, 2016 meeting, it was moved seconded and carried on a voice vote. Mr. Sopko did not vote.

The Seritage applicant has asked for an adjournment until our February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. The Chair made motion to adjourn PB16-02 and PB16-03 Seritage Properties until February 21<sup>st</sup> 2017, with an extension through March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017 with notice. It was moved, seconded and discussion was made regarding why they asked to be adjourned. The applicant indicated they were having discussions with people interested in the site. We are assuming it's the tenants, but have not been told that directly. Hearing no further discussion, the Chair called for a roll: Boyd (yes) Desnoyers (yes) Ellis (A) Haveson (yes) Sopko (yes) Pennett (yes) Pote (yes) Speeney (yes) Chairwoman Schaefer (yes)

Madame Chair welcomed Councilman Sopko to the board. Mr. Sopko expressed his appreciation and looks forward to working with the board as well.

The meeting was opened up to the public, seeing none it was closed. The Chair called for further discussion. Mr. Speeney asked if there were any other applications forthcoming. The Chair said there were two that she knew of, one had to do with a cellular tower and the other was a clothing bin, but no formal application has been received yet.

The Chair thanked everyone for coming adjourned the meeting at 7:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Maryann Amiano*  
Planning Board Clerk