

Village of The Branch – Special Planning Board Meeting
March 20th, 2019

The Special Planning Board meeting of the Village of The Branch was held in the Village Hall, 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY 11787, at 7:30 p.m. on March 20th, 2019.

The following persons were present:

Libby Smith- Chairman
Marie Zere – Member
Dennis Ryan- Member
Glenn Haberfield – Member

Christine Cozine – Village Clerk
ABSENT
David Wetzel – Member
Dan Falasco – Village Engineer

Chairman Libby Smith called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm.

Chairman Smith started out by Congratulating Dennis Ryan on being elected to the Board of Trustees.

Glenn Haberfield made a **motion** to approve the December 2018 Planning Board minutes. Dennis Ryan seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion was approved. (3 Ayes – Libby, Dennis, Glenn)

At this time the public Hearing was opened:

JP from Fusion Architect presented the revised landscape plan for Citizen’s 2 Oak Tree Drive group home. Back in November of 2018 came in and took comments from Board and residents and revised the landscape plan accordingly. Engineer Falasco provided the site lines, and took into account lights in the neighbor across the street, Mr. Monahan’s, windows. They also have a

- 7ft no planting zone
- 12 ft setback from curb line
- Moved new plantings toward Southwest, reduced the number of White Oaks and replaced with Evergreens and American Holly.
- Strategically placed American Holly, so it would block headlights from oncoming cars, Pacasandra ground cover and some Red Maples.

Glenn Haberfield commented it looked good and that Fusion has done everything we asked them to do.

Chairman Smith asked JP what are the sizes of the bushes/trees? He mentioned the information is located at the bottom of the drawing.

Mr. Brian Monahan – resident 1 Oak Tree Drive – The drawing shows that the Holly will grow and fill in together, will that actually happen? JP answered it will create a natural screening.

Glenn Haberfield commented he has them in his backyard and that yes they will fill in nicely. JP stated Citizen’s went above and beyond to try to accommodate Mr. Monahan’s issues and is willing to have him come over when they actually do the plantings. Mr. Monahan stated that he wouldn’t come over when they do the plantings. Mr. Monahan originally asked for a wall staggered.

Marie Zere asked about the maintenance of the landscaping, who would do it? Chairman Smith asked Marie to look at the plans as they chose plantings that have the least amount of renovation.

JP asked to have someone from the Village be at the site when they do the actual plantings so if anything should come up they could discuss. Chairman Smith said she would as long as she was given some lead time as she travels often.

JP asked on behalf of the Agency, who is providing the bond for the additional landscaping, when will the Village release the monies. Chairman Smith responded with as soon as the plants are planted. She also asked Clerk Cozine to draft a letter and send it to Citizen's.

Chairman Smith closed the Public hearing at 7:38pm.

The Planning Board members reviewed the site plan and its 7 noted restrictions.

Marie Zere made a **motion** to give final approval to Acadia Realty's plan for storage of snow removal equipment from October 1st thru April 1st each year at the Branch Shopping Center.

Dennis Ryan seconded Marie's **motion** to grant final approval of applicant's plan.

All in favor and **motion** was approved unanimously.

The Board reviewed the minutes from April 18th, 2018 Planning Board Meeting. There were no corrections or omissions. Dennis Ryan made a **motion** to accept the April 18th, 2018 minutes as written. Glen Haberfield seconded the **motion**. All in favor and approved unanimously.

Special Planning Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Libby Smith – Planning Board Chairman