

Shutesbury Planning Board
 Minutes – January 8, 2025 Executive Session
 Approved and approved for public release: 8/18/26
Virtual Meeting

Board Members Present: Michael DeChiara, Jeff Weston, Steve Bressler
Associate Members Present: Keith Hastie, Tom Siefert (joined at 7:40pm)
Board Members Absent: Nathan Murphy, Deacon Bonnar, Ashleigh Pyecroft
Others Present: Matteo Pangallo (Land Use Clerk), Rita Farrell, Adam J. Costa, Donna McNicol

Michael DeChiara, as acting chair, opened the meeting at 6:38pm
 Michael designated Keith to serve as a voting Planning Board member for purposes of the meeting. A quorum was achieved.

Michael moved to go into Executive Session for Reason No. 3, to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's litigating position. Litigation specific to Complaint received from Cowls regarding the Shutesbury Solar Bylaw. Not to return to Open Session

Jeff seconded.

Michael -aye, Jeff -aye, Steve – aye, Keith – aye

Adam and Donna explained what the Board could expect from the mediation session with Pure Sky and Cowls on Jan. 17, 2025. This included logistics, the role of the mediator and the likely dynamics of mediation, generally speaking. Members of the Board asked questions and discussion occurred.

At approximately 7:30, at the suggestion of Adam, the Board reviewed the documentation highlighting all the relevant criteria associated with the five projects.

Tom Siefert joined the meeting at approximately 7:40 pm.

Files provided by the plaintiffs were shared and reviewed. These included various maps of each project including slope analysis, Biomap location, and project elements like driveways, locations of batteries, acreage, etc. The group discussed the various criteria project by project, identifying areas of concern and flexibility project by project.

Based on this discussion, Michael will update the board's notes and provide hard copies for the mediation session. The Board's list of Possible Demands for mediation were reviewed and discussed.

Michael moved to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Seconded.

Michael -aye, Jeff -aye, Steve – aye, Keith – aye

Documents used:

- Documentation of relevant criteria for the five projects

- Files provided by the plaintiffs regarding each project