

**Cambridge Planning Commission Meeting Minutes- DRAFT until approved in subsequent PC meetings.**

Start: 6:40pm. January 18, 2016 Attendees: Doug B, Werner B, Richard W, Michael M, Brian A.

Jean Jenkauskas and Jan Sander representing the Jeffersonville PC.

Seth Jensen from LCPC presented on Solar Siting/Screening discussion for Cambridge and Jeffersonville.

**Review Agenda:** Additional Items: None

**Seth Jensen** provided a recap of ongoing State processes regarding the implementation of local bylaws to address solar siting/screening options.

Municipalities can adopt screening criteria, but bylaws cannot be designed to negate the ability to develop arrays.

We must keep in mind difference btwn commercial and small scale residential projects.

If a municipality did want to develop bylaws they would need to be incorporated into various parts of existing plans/bylaws to ensure no contradiction and thorough standards.

**Jean J:** Her personal rooftop panels in the Village of Jeff did have to pass historic property standards.

There is a question about whether solar arrays can be located w/in flood plains.

Rooftop uses existing space and reduces pressure on open space, ag lands and may be considered less "unsightly". Is there a way for the municipalities to incentivize rooftop over ground mount?

**Doug B** stated that an incentive can feel like a municipality is taking a stance.

The Town of Cambridge has not incorporated specific language into existing bylaws to address citing/screening at this time. We could do so if there was public interest.

While there are 3-4 known commercial scale projects under review or due to be started, no interested parties have asked the PC to review or advocate.

John Hayden did email the PC chair as he was unable to attend this mtg. He described a potential solar array project being planned for the field on RT 15 btwn his farm property and the maple outlet. This is a scenic corridor in the municipal plan and aesthetics should be considered as far as he is concerned.

**Review past mtg minutes:** not available for review at this mtg

**Review Mail:** **Richard W** provided a mail review worksheet. Two mail items were for projects located in Jeff village. **Richard W** will forward these to them. All other items were administrative in nature and/or did not warrant further action as decided by PC members present.

Meeting ended at 8:30pm.