

1 PLANNING BOARD COUNTY OF ALBANY

2 TOWN OF COLONIE

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4 THE CROSSINGS APARTMENTS PDD
32 AND 40 AVIATION ROAD
5 AMENDMENT TO PDD AND RECOMMENDATION TO TOWN BOARD

6 THE STENOGRAPHIC MINUTES of the above entitled
7 matter by NANCY L. STRANG, a Shorthand Reporter,
8 commencing on August 23, 2016 at 8:11 p.m. at The
Public Operations Center, 347 Old Niskayuna Road,
Latham, New York.

9

10 BOARD MEMBERS:
11 PETER STUTO, CHAIRMAN
12 LOU MION
13 SUSAN MILSTEIN
14 CRAIG SHAMLIAN
15 BRIAN AUSTIN

16 ALSO PRESENT:

17

18 Kathleen Marinelli, Esq. Counsel to the Planning Board
19 Joseph LaCivita, Planning and Economic Development
20 Department
21 Michael Tengeler, Planning and Economic Development
22 Department
23 Joseph Grasso, PE, CHA
24 Nick Costa, PE, Advanced Engineering
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1 CHAIRMAN STUTO: The last item on the agenda
2 is the Crossings Apartments PDD, 32 and 40 Aviation
3 Road, amendment to PDD and recommendation to the Town
4 Board, emergency access re-alignment.

5 We'll turn this straight over to the applicant.

6 MR. COSTA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 Basically, the original Crossings Apartments
8 envisioned having an interconnection for emergency
9 purposes that would cross the National Grid parcel.
10 We started talking to National Grid back in April of
11 2014. We met with them and we explored the permission
12 to make that crossing.

13 As we went through the process, there was some
14 items that came up to light that caused us to abandon
15 that connection and basically what happened was we
16 couldn't satisfy the National Grid requirement to have
17 the profile of the access road remain at the existing
18 grade. We either needed to lower it or raise it. What
19 happens is that if we lower it, we get too close to a
20 fiber optic that transmits from Wall Street to the
21 Chicago Mercantile. They told us - when they guy came
22 and said don't hit that. You don't have enough
23 pennies to pay for that.

24 If we raised the grade there, we actually got
25 closer to the height of their lot. They are at the

1 minimum clearance right now. We abandoned that.

2 We talked to Joe Bisognano and relocating that
3 connection to here (Indicating) over from the parking
4 lot from the Cicciotti Center.

5 That's basically why we are here today is to
6 make that relocation.

7 One other thing that I just want to mention is
8 the building at number 40 is open and residents are
9 moving in there. That's just an update on the status.
10 This is on the construction.

11 CHAIRMAN STUTO: Comments from our Town
12 Designated Engineer, Joe Grasso?

13 MR. GRASSO: I will comment on it. We did not
14 do a letter. I don't think that our review warranted
15 documentation in a review letter, but I will speak to
16 it.

17 This connection really had been provided during
18 the site plan design process to facilitate emergency
19 access, being able to cross from one site to the
20 other. Obviously, when we look to eliminate that our
21 big concern was a potential impact on Emergency
22 Services. Joe Bisognano did review this and he
23 thought that it was favorable. Obviously, access to
24 both sites are ample and there are multiple access
25 points to them. Their one suggestion was to make the

1 accommodation to the bike path so that bike path could
2 serve as an additional emergency access connection.
3 It's important to know that bike path currently serves
4 as an additional emergency access connection to the
5 Cicciotti Center. This provides more redundancy of
6 the system and that's why the connection between the
7 sites is not warranted.

8 The other thing is when you look at the
9 apartment complex, there is no need for pedestrians or
10 residents within the apartment buildings to cross from
11 one building to another by crossing the National Grid
12 lands because they really are set up to operate
13 independently. There are recreational facilities,
14 there are outdoor patios and grilling areas. So, they
15 have those within their own courtyards. Obviously,
16 both buildings will still have strong connections to
17 the Crossings Park, which won't be impacted by the
18 project.

19 We are supportive of the change. It will
20 obviously result in a little bit more greenspace,
21 which is a good thing. Any time that we cross that
22 National Grid right of way we are developing more open
23 space that we have in the Town, so it's positive for
24 that. It was going to be a redundant connection
25 because you can see the bike path connection. I call

1 it a bike path, but it's really a walking trail within
2 the Crossings to the south. Like I said before,
3 obviously all the Town Departments see no concerns
4 with the proposed change.

5 CHAIRMAN STUTO: Any comments or questions from
6 the Board?

7 (There was no response.)

8 Do we have a motion on the amendment to the PDD
9 and a positive recommendation to the Town Board?

10 MR. MION: I'll make that motion.

11 MR. AUSTIN: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN STUTO: Any discussion?

13 (There was no response.)

14 All those in favor, say aye.

15 (Ayes were recited.)

16 All those opposed, say nay.

17 (There were none opposed.)

18 The ayes have it.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. COSTA: Thank you.

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22 (Whereas the above entitled proceeding was
23 concluded at 8:17 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATION

I, NANCY L. STRANG, Shorthand Reporter and
Notary Public in and for the State of New York, hereby
CERTIFY that the record taken by me at the time and
place noted in the heading hereof is a true and
accurate transcript of same, to the best of my ability
and belief.

NANCY L. STRANG

Dated _____

