



**CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
500 Mill Road
Absecon, New Jersey 08201**

PLANNING & ZONING

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**JANUARY 8, 2020
PLANNING BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Tina

**FLAG SALUTE
NOTIFICATION OF MEETING**

ROLL CALL

Present: Ciccone, Aleli, Horton, Howell, Kirk, Seher, Tiberio, Gersh, Preston

Absent: Reilly, Strugala

REORGANIZATION MEETING

Vote: Position of Chairman Jeff nominated Bob Preston – seconded by Nick

No other nominations

Motion to approve Bob – Jeff Ciccone – second – Nick Tiberio

All were in favor.

Vote: Position of Vice-Chair – Betty nominated Jeff Ciccone – seconded by Nick

No other nominations

Motion to approve Jeff – Betty Howell – second – Nick Tiberio

All were in favor.

Vote: 2020 Meeting Dates

November will have no meeting since the first meeting falls on Veteran's Day and the second one is the night before Thanksgiving.

Motion to approve dates – Greg Seher – second – Michele Kirk

All were in favor.

Bob opened the meeting to the public.

PUBLIC PORTION

Drew Fishman – 210 Woodcrest Court – thanked everyone for their service. He is a licensed real estate broker and has over 35 years of experience. As a past member of the Board, they tried to make the city competitive and open for business and he's been hearing about both boards and too many businesses not feeling as welcome here as other towns. We started the Site Plan Waiver process to make it easier in the past. They say it's a harder process to start a business up. We need to continue to grow in the city and attract new businesses. There are too many empty places. We need to get our professionals on line as well and work to keep our costs down. Royal Farms is actually going to just finish the projects that have received approvals and then leaving NJ. They find that in NJ the cost of developing is too high. We need to work to encourage people to come and keep costs down. Atlantic County is one of the worst markets right now in the entire country and that's not good. We all need to work together to make it better. He told the board if anyone wanted to ever talk to him, he'd be available.

Bob – asked how the board could make it easier

Drew – maybe keep an eye on the fees. We tried to make it easier on the small businesses and tried to work with them. We have problems with the landlords here, who just keep bumping up the rent and they have empty shops. It doesn't make sense.

Kim – we are applying for transit village status and hopes that will help us out. With the landlord problem, how do we help out with that?

Drew - maybe have someone meet with them. The Marketplace has even removed trash cans and he is sure that they were on the approved site plan. We all need to work together.

Bob closed the public portion.

OLD BUSINESS:

Vote: Approval of Minutes of December 11, 2019 meeting

Motion to approve: John Aleli – second – Michele Kirk

All were in favor. Kim abstained.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Andy Previti - \$184.75 - EMD Real Estate Holdings; \$1,195.00 - EMD Real Estate Holdings; \$562.25 American Legion

Motion to approve bills – Nick Tiberio – second - Michele Kirk

All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting – Betty Howell – second – Greg Seher

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Tina Lawler, Secretary

Approved: 1-22-2020