**Town of Washington**

**Planning Commission**

**Minutes of the Meeting on September 26 2022**

Present: Jeanne Kaufmann, Connie Bruce, Drew Beard, Caroline Anstey (Chair). Absent – Judy de Sarno. The Zoning Administrator, Steve Gyurisin, was also present.

Approval of the minutes of August 22: Jeanne proposed, Drew seconded all voted in favor.

**Old Business**

Discussion of draft Ordinances covering a) Solar Panels and b) Swimming Pools.

*Solar Panels*: Finalized proposal to go to the Town Council, including deciding that for ALL areas of town, solar energy facilities at ground level require a SUP. Clarified that ‘temporary’ as in ‘temporary photovoltaic facilities‘ covers a 30 day period.

Motion to submit recommendation to the Town Council proposed by Jeanne and seconded by Drew. All present voted in favor.

*Swimming Pools*: discussed draft definitions of whether pool surface areas should be restricted to less than 50% of the size of the main structure, as proposed by the Zoning Administrator. Also discussed whether the height limit on pools should be 1 or 2 feet above ground given that infinity pools require a gradient. Decided to accept the proposal on pool surface area but amend the proposal on height to 2 feet since this is in line with ARB guidelines. Also affirmed the prohibition on discharge of pool water into the Town’s water system and mandated that a certificate of proper disposal be required of the property owner.

Motion to submit finalized recommendation on Swimming Pools to the Town Council moved by Jeanne and seconded by Connie. All present voted in favor.

**New Business:**

Election of new Secretary: Jeanne proposed Connie, and Caroline seconded. All voted in favor.

**Public Session**

Bob Fasce asked for clarification on the commercial application of the Pool Ordinance , including for pools within or on top of buildings. The Chair clarified that for both types of pools what would be pertinent would be the size and set back of the building containing the pool – which would need to be approved by the ARB - the visibility of the pool from the street or adjacent properties, the Virginia Code on swimming pool safety, and the disposal of swimming pool water. The PC further clarified that as far as the ruling on visibility to ‘adjacent property owners’ , the wording would be amended to read ‘separate property owners.’

The PC voted on the amended recommendation to the Town Council – Jeanne proposed, Connie seconded, all voted in favor.

The PC adjourned at 8 pm

Minutes prepared by Caroline Anstey