

Re: VTP - Unified Solar Permit For Discussion At August 30th BOT Meeting

David McFadden <dmcfadden@tuxedopark-ny.gov>

Sat 8/26/2023 12:22 PM

To: John Ledwith <jledwith@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Tinka Shaw <tshaw@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Paul Brooke <pbrooke@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Joshua Scherer <jscherer@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Chris Kasker <ckasker@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Elizabeth Doherty <edoherty@tuxedopark-ny.gov>

Cc: Molly Gonzales (m.gonzales211@gmail.com) <m.gonzales211@gmail.com>; Stefanie Rinza (stefaniewbf@gmail.com) <stefaniewbf@gmail.com>; Ryan J. Lynch (ryanlynch33@gmail.com) <ryanlynch33@gmail.com>; crggow@gmail.com <crggow@gmail.com>; Rob McQuilkin (rob@mmqlit.com) <rob@mmqlit.com>; Jim Hays (jimhays122633@gmail.com) <jimhays122633@gmail.com>; Jared A. Kasschau <JKasschau@HarrisBeach.com>

I will enter this more formal letter on the subject into the record at the meeting:

Dear Trustees and Members of the BAR,

Mr. Hays, Chairman of the Climate Smart Committee, has requested that the Village BOT adopt the NYS Unified Solar Permit guidelines on the solar panels in Tuxedo Park village-owned and private properties.

Before the Board of Trustees (BOT) takes a vote on the NYS Unified Solar Permit, I propose allowing the Board of Architectural Review (BAR) adequate time to thoroughly examine the implications, benefits, and drawbacks of incorporating solar panels within the framework of our landmark designation. This study will enable us to make an informed decision.

In light of this, the BAR should provide a comprehensive recommendation to the BOT, outlining the potential integration of solar panels into the village's architectural landscape. This recommendation should include a dedicated chapter within our design guidelines, explicitly addressing the utilization of solar panels.

The BAR's recommendation should also encompass specific technical specifications and details related to solar panel installations within this chapter. This could encompass guidelines on permissible specifications, such as size, appearance, and positioning, and a list of approved manufacturers whose products align with our village's aesthetics and preservation goals. It is crucial that we strike a balance between sustainability and preserving the character of our community.

This matter has arisen and is looking for a deeper exploration and analysis. By engaging in this comprehensive study, we will be better equipped to determine the most suitable and harmonious approach to integrating solar panels into our historic village. This endeavor aligns with our commitment to both environmental responsibility and honoring our architectural heritage.

I look forward to the insights and recommendations the BAR will provide, as they are pivotal in guiding us toward a well-considered decision that respects our past and future.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best regards,

Mayor McFadden

From: David McFadden <dmcfadden@tuxedopark-ny.gov>

Sent: Saturday, August 26, 2023 12:09 PM

To: John Ledwith <jledwith@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Tinka Shaw <tshaw@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Paul Brooke <pbrooke@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Joshua Scherer <jscherer@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Chris Kasker <ckasker@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Elizabeth Doherty <edoherty@tuxedopark-ny.gov>
Cc: Molly Gonzales (m.gonzales211@gmail.com) <m.gonzales211@gmail.com>; Stefanie Rinza (stefaniewbf@gmail.com) <stefaniewbf@gmail.com>; Ryan J. Lynch (ryanlynch33@gmail.com) <ryanlynch33@gmail.com>; crggow@gmail.com <crggow@gmail.com>; Rob McQuilkin (rob@mmqlit.com) <rob@mmqlit.com>; Jim Hays (jimhays122633@gmail.com) <jimhays122633@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: VTP - Unified Solar Permit For Discussion At August 30th BOT Meeting

To the Trustees, BAR Members, and Jim Hays:

Before the BOT votes on this proposal, I would like to give the BAR time to study the use of solar panels and the impacts, pros, and cons in the context of our landmark designation. The recommendation from the BAR to the BOT should provide an outline for adding a chapter on the use of solar panels in the village to be included in the design guidelines. The BAR recommendation should include specs and manufacturers of solar panels that may or may not be allowed in the Park. This matter has come up in the past and needs further study.

Mac

From: John Ledwith <jledwith@tuxedopark-ny.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 11:14 AM
To: David McFadden <dmcfadden@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Tinka Shaw <tshaw@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Paul Brooke <pbrooke@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Joshua Scherer <jscherer@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Chris Kasker <ckasker@tuxedopark-ny.gov>; Elizabeth Doherty <edoherty@tuxedopark-ny.gov>
Cc: Molly Gonzales (m.gonzales211@gmail.com) <m.gonzales211@gmail.com>; Stefanie Rinza (stefaniewbf@gmail.com) <stefaniewbf@gmail.com>; Ryan J. Lynch (ryanlynch33@gmail.com) <ryanlynch33@gmail.com>; crggow@gmail.com <crggow@gmail.com>; Rob McQuilkin (rob@mmqlit.com) <rob@mmqlit.com>; Jim Hays (jimhays122633@gmail.com) <jimhays122633@gmail.com>
Subject: VTP - Unified Solar Permit For Discussion At August 30th BOT Meeting

Good morning.

Mr. Hays, Chairman of the Climate Smart Committee, has requested that the Village BOT adopt the Unified Solar Permit. Information provided below and attached.

I copied the BAR members to see if they have any comments as the installation of a solar powered system is an exterior change to a house that under the current Village Code requires BAR approval.

I ask that this item be placed on the August 30th BOT agenda for discussion and approval.

Regards,

John C. Ledwith IV
Building Inspector & Advisor to the
Village Board of Trustees
Village of Tuxedo Park
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From: jimhays122633@gmail.com <jimhays122633@gmail.com> on behalf of James Hays <jimhays@ldeo.columbia.edu>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 9:59 AM
To: John Ledwith <jledwith@tuxedopark-ny.gov>
Subject: UNIFIED SOLAR PERMIT

Hi John,

Back in March we discussed the Unified Solar Permit which if adopted will help streamline the permitting process for those interested in placing solar cells on their houses.

It would be good to have the BOT consider this, run it past the Village attorney and have the BOT adopt it. I attach again the application template and a description of the Unified Solar Permit together with sources that can help free of charge.

This could be introduced at the next BOT meeting next week or at the September meeting.

If you like we can discuss it further.

Thanks,

Jim