



Garrett County Government Department of Community Development Planning & Land Management Division

203 South Fourth Street, Room 208, Oakland, Maryland 21550

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Garrett County Planning Commission Minutes September 3, 2025

1. **Call to Order-** Tony Doerr called the regular meeting of the Garrett County Planning Commission to order at 1:30 pm on September 3, 2025, in the County Commissioners Meeting Room in the Garrett County Courthouse.
2. **Attendance-** Planning Commission members: Tony Doerr, Liz Georg, Larry Tichnell, Julie Friend, and Terah Crawford. Planning staff: Chad Fike.
3. **Approval of Minutes-** The previous meeting minutes were approved as presented.
4. **Reports, Updates and Announcements-** Mr. Fike provided an update about the Special Exception application SE-517 for a Community Solar Energy Generating System at 136 Paradise Point Road that was discussed by the Planning Commission during their August meeting. Prior to the Special Exception hearing before the Deep Creek Watershed Zoning Board of Appeals, staff discussed the impact of the State's recently enacted Renewable Energy Certainty Act with the County Attorney. The Act requires local jurisdictions to treat community solar systems as a permitted use so it was determined that the Board of Appeals could not have a hearing on the use. Staff will need to update the Deep Creek Watershed Zoning Ordinance to adapt to the requirements in the new State law.
5. **Deep Creek Watershed Zoning Appeals Cases-**
 - **VR-846** – An application submitted by Doug Storck c/o Steven & Nancy Jo Shelton for a Variance to allow the construction of a residential addition to connect an existing house and accessory garage resulting in a SFR with an attached garage to within 6' of the side. (8' is required). The property is located at 779 Deep Creek Drive, McHenry, MD 21541, tax map 50, parcel 226, lot 115, grid 20 and is zoned Lake Residential 1. The Planning Commission discussed but did not offer a formal opinion.
6. **Major Subdivisions:**
 - **Wisp Resort PRD Highland Adventure Eco Village-** M Four Holdings submitted a Final Plat for 5 dwelling units on their property (Tax Map 49, Parcel 160) located along Nature Run in a Lake residential 1 zoning district. The Planning Commission approved the plat by unanimous vote (with Chairman Doerr abstaining).
7. **Adjournment** – Chairman Tony Doerr adjourned the meeting at 1:42 pm.

Minutes submitted by Chad Fike, Assistant Director