BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD

Special Meeting
Tuesday, January 28, 2014
—MINUTES—

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Rusak called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. in the Bridgewater Raritan High School Auditorium, 600 Garretson Road, Bridgewater, New Jersey.

2. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT ANNOUNCEMENT:

Adequate notice of this special meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-6. On January 16, 2014 proper notice was sent to the Courier News and the Star-Ledger and filed with the Clerk at the Township of Bridgewater and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building. Please be aware of the Planning Board policy for public hearings: no new applications will be heard after 10:00 pm and no new testimony will be taken after 10:15 pm. Hearing Assistance is available upon request.

3. SALUTE TO FLAG:

There was salute to colors

4. ROLL CALL:

Stephen Rodzinak – present James Franco – present

Walter Rusak – present

Councilman Matthew Moench – present

Ron Charles – present

Barbara Kane – present

Mayor Dan Hayes – present

Tricia Casamento, Alt. #1 – present

Others present: Board Attorney Thomas Collins, Board Engineer Robert C. Bogart, Board Planner Scarlett Doyle, Board Traffic Expert, Gordon Meth, PE, PTOE, Recording Secretary Marianna Voorhees

5. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES:

November 12, 2013 Regular Meeting – Motion by Mrs. Kane, second by Mr. Franco, the foregoing minutes were adopted on the following roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE:

Mr. Rodzinak, Mr. Franco, Councilman Moench, Mayor Hayes,

Mrs. Kane

ABSTAIN:

Mr. Charles

NOT ELIGIBLE:

Chairman Rusak, Mrs. Casamento

November 12, 2013 Closed Session Meeting – Motion by Mrs. Kane, second by Councilman

Moench, the foregoing minutes were adopted on the following roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE:

Mr. Rodzinak, Mr. Charles, Mr. Franco, Councilman Moench,

Mayor Hayes, Mrs. Kane

NOT ELIGIBLE:

Chairman Rusak, Mrs. Casamento

December 9, 2013 Regular Meeting – Motion by Councilman Moench, second by Mr. Charles,

the foregoing minutes were adopted on the following roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Rodzinak, Mr. Charles, Mr. Franco, Councilman Moench,

Mayor Hayes, Mrs. Kane

NOT ELIGIBLE: Chairman Rusak, Mrs. Casamento

6. MEMORIALIZATION OF RESOLUTIONS:

None pending

7. LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

AlFalah Center – 1475 Mountain Top Road Block 653 Lots 36 & 37

#01-11-PB, PRELIMINARY Major Site Plan and Conditional Use

Time: 2/28/14 per extension

See attached Transcription dated January 28, 2014. Prepared by: Diane M. Holmes, C.C.R. of Rizman Rappaport Dillon & Rose, 66 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave., Livingston, NJ 07039

8. ADJOURNMENT:

It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Marianna Voorhees, Secretary to Engineering/ Planning Division

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	Page 1		Page 3
1	BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP	1	going to put on an entirely new case. I will not
2	PLANNING BOARD	2	rely or ask the board to read the testimony of a
3	IN THE MATTER OF: TRANSCRIPT		partial hearing and evening.
4	OF ALFALAH CENTER PROCEEDINGS	4	That said, we would like to begin. I
5	Applicant.	_	would call my first witness who is George Folk of
б			David Stires Associates, our civil engineer.
7	Bridgewater Raritan High School	7	For the benefit of the audience, the
8	600 Garretson Road Bridgewater, New Jersey		plans on the screen behind you are the plan sets
9	Tuesday, January 28, 2014 Commencing at 7 p.m.		that were delivered to the planning board. I do not
10	BEFORE:		believe, Mr. Collins, these need to be marked. We
11	BOARD MEMBERS		will refer to them by plan and sheet number in the
12	PATRICIA CASAMENTO		course of the hearings so that the record is clear.
13	RON CHARLES JAMES V. FRANCO	13	I will also provide the board with
14	DANIEL J HAYES, JR., Mayor BARBARA KANE	1	transcripts of all proceedings so that any member
15	MATTHEW MOENCH, Councilman STEPHEN RODZINAK		who is absent has the benefit of the transcript.
16	WALTER RUSAK, Chairman	16	MR. COLLINS: Thank you, Ms. Tubman. I
17	ROBERT BOGART, PE, Township Engineer THOMAS COLLINS, ESQ., Board Attorney	17	agree with you that the slides do not have to be
18	SCARLETT DOYLE, Planner GORDON METH, PE	}	presented as separate exhibits because they are part
19	MARIANNA VORHEES, Asst. Board Secretary		of the record of the application, and I will swear
20	APPEARANCES:		in the first witness.
21	ADGUED & CONTINED D. C.	21	Sir, please raise your right hand. Do
22	ARCHER & GREINER, P.C. Attorneys for the Plaintiffs	1	you swear or affirm to tell the truth, the whole
	1 State Route 12 Flemington, New Jersey 08822		truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?
23	BY: LLOYD H. TUBMAN, ESQ.	24	MR. FOLK: Yes, I do.
24 25	m	25	MR. COLLINS: State your name and
43	Reported by: Diane M. Holmes, CCR		
	Page 2		Page 4
1		1	
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In The Matter Of:

In Re: Al Falah Center

Transcript of Proceedings January 28, 2014

Rizman Rappaport Dillon & Rose 66 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave. Livingston, N.J. 07039 (973) 992-7650

RECEIVED

FEB 6 - 2014

BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP PLANNING DIVISION

Min-U-Script® with Word Index

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- 1 professional planner.
- MR. FOLK: Thank you.
- Okay. In front of you we have tonight
- 4 the Redwood Inn banquet facility. I'm sure everyone
- 5 is familiar with the site. The site fronts on
- 6 Mountaintop Road along the westerly side of the
- 7 project which is the red dot is Redwood Inn banquet
- facility.
- To the north slightly is the Mine Road 9
- 10 intersection with Running Brook and Papen Road
- 11 further to the north. To the south is the West
- 12 Brook Road and Geiger Lane in these general
- 13 locations on this overhead map. The proposal -- the
- existing site is again located on the easterly side
- of Mountaintop Road. The track is located within
- 16 the R50 zone which generally incorporates
- single-family detached residential uses. 17
- The property which comprises the site
- 19 is Lots 36 and 37 and then Block 653 and consists of
- 20 the total track area 7.64 acres. The project
- 21 proposed involves reuse of the property and banquet
- 22 hall as a mosque. The site -- the proposed site
- 23 improvements will also consist of landscape
- 24 improvements around the entire site will be
- 25 landscaping, lighting for the parking lot and in

- 1 impervious coverage on the site from approximately
- 2 37 percent existing coverage to a 34 percent which
- 3 will substantially decrease the runoff to the
- downstream areas. The property is also going to
- propose lighting stanchions and lighting fixtures
- 6 for the parking lot. The lighting along the south
- 7 end of the existing or the proposed parking lot, the
- existing parking lot will have 14-foot high light
- 9 fixtures remaining on the site. The remainder of
- 10 the site will have 20-foot high light fixtures
- 11 within the ordinance requirements. I'm sorry. The
- 12 improved lot coverage will go from 37 percent to 30
- 13 percent. It will decrease 7 percent overall.
- The site is a conditional use. The 14
- 15 application is a conditional use, and to comply with
- 16 the section of the ordinance for 1.6-353 which
- 17 establishes the conditions for our proposed use, the
- **18** section 126-353B1 requires a 20 foot -- 20 square
- 19 feet of site area per square feet of floor area of 20 all buildings.
- The proposed mosque will total 14,567
- 22 square feet requiring 2000 -- 291,340 square feet of
- 23 land area. Lots 36 and 37 total 314,273 square feet
- 24 after the right of way dedication. Section
- 25 126-353B1 also requires -- establishes a maximum

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- 1 front of the building and driveway access aisles in 2 the right-of-way dedication and improvement along
- 3 Mountaintop Road and storm drainage improvements to
- 4 the existing man-made ditch that's located in the
- 5 area at the southeast end of the existing parking
- 6 lot that drains to a man-made ditch down to the
- culvert under Geiger Lane.
- The public board for domestic service
- and fire service, sanitary sewer, gas, electric and
- 10 telephone services currently serve the site, and any
- 11 improvements need to be confirmed with the existing
- utilities. 12
- The topography on the property the way
- 14 the ground slopes is from a west to east direction
- generally at 6 percent. No slope on the property
- exceeds 10 percent. The property does not contain
- any flood plain areas. A man-made ditch is located
- at the easterly end of the existing parking lot.
- This man-made ditch was located or was determined to
- 20 be a man-made wetland area. It has an LOI to that
- 21 effect from the NJDEP.
- We can go through the site as far as
- 23 impervious coverage. Impervious coverage is your
- 24 total coverage of rooftops, parking areas and drive
- 25 aisles. The site is proposing to reduce the

- 1 coverage of all impervious surfaces of 50 percent.
- 2 The proposed impervious coverage is, as mentioned
- 3 earlier, 30.4 percent. The section 1.6-353B2
- 4 establishes a maximum lot coverage of 18 percent.
- 5 Proposed lot coverage is 4.64 percent. By
- definition, lot coverage in this case is just the
- building coverage itself.
- In section 1.6-353C requires double
- side and rear yards adjacent to a residential zone.
- The property is within a residential zone in
- 11 compliance with this ordinance section is as
- 12 follows:
- One side yard required is 25 feet. A 13
- 14 side yard would be along the northerly part that --
- against Running Brook and the southerly side along
- 16 Geiger Lane. The side yard by ordinance is 25 feet.
- 17 As a conditional use, it has to be 50. It's
- 18 doubled, and we provide 91. Both sides yards in
- 19 this zone for this conditional use is 70 feet
- 20 required. Doubled there's 140 feet, and we are at
- 21 288 feet. The rear along the easterly side of the
- 22 property as required at 85 feet for a setback from
- 23 the property line. Doubled that to 170, and we have
- provided with this application 267.95 feet. 24
- If you'd like to go into the parking

MS. TUBMAN: Yes. Would you tell us

MR. FOLK: Our parking calculation was

6 at three persons per space came up to 167 spaces. MS. TUBMAN: And provided are?

MR. FOLK: Provided are -- 170 spaces

9 are provided, are proposed. One sixty-seven is

MS. TUBMAN: And was that 500 figure

MS. TUBMAN: And we will address that

MS. TUBMAN: But you meet the ordinance

20 stormwater management, the project is proposing to

22 increases the benefits to the downstream properties

21 reduce impervious coverage on the site and that

MS. TUBMAN: Would you address the

25 comments in the township's professionals' reports

MR. FOLK: Yes. As mentioned,

5 based on a maximum occupancy use of 500 persons and

3 how you calculated the parking?

12 provided to you by Alfalah?

MR. FOLK: Yes, it was.

15 figure through another witness. MR. FOLK: Correct.

1 or ---

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18 standard?

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- 1 feet. Are they shielded also?
 - MR. FOLK: Correct.
 - Okay. Mr. Paulson's, director of human
 - 4 services, memo dated January 19, 2011, his first
 - 5 bulleted item is in regard to underground storage
 - 6 tanks for fuel oil for heaters. These tanks have
 - 7 been removed, and we have no further action letters
 - 8 for these two tanks that were removed from the site.
 - 9 That's bullet items one and two.
 - Bullet item number three we will comply
 - 11 with. The applicant will comply with the New Jersey
 - 12 license to operate daycare facilities proposed in
 - 13 the application, and bullet number four, the
 - 14 applicant must provide details on potential need to
 - 15 conduct indoor air quality assessment. We will
 - 16 comply with those.
 - Mr. Klouser, LeRoy Klouser's memo dated 17
 - 18 January 19, 2011, his first paragraph indicates that
 - 19 we need to provide the township with sanitary sewer
 - 20 usage audit forms, and we will do that.
 - The second paragraph indicates that the 21
 - 22 applicant's engineer may be required to analyze the
 - 23 sewer network, converted building to SRBSA treatment
 - 24 plant, and depending on the number of sewer units
 - 25 established by the sewer -- sanitary sewer use
- Page 10
- 1 that are relevant to your testimony?

23 in that the runoff will be reduced.

- MR. FOLK: Yes, I will do that. I'll
- 3 start with the -- I'll start with the -- Mr.
- 4 Paulson, Chris Paulson, director of human services,
- 5 memo dated January 19, 2011.
- Before I do, is there any questions
- 7 from the board with the testimony so far in regard
- 8 to the application?
- MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman, a quick
- 10 question. Just you pointed out the man-made
- 11 wetlands. I understand there's three areas of
- 12 wetlands. Could you point out all three?
- MR. FOLK: Yeah. There's a small
- 14 portion up in this location that we're not
- 15 disturbing. There's a portion down here in this
- 16 location and then there's a small isolated patch
- 17 back in the woods here.
- 18 MR. CHARLES: And you said the one was
- 19 a man-made?
- MR. FOLK: Yes. This is a man-made 20
- 21 ditch. It collects water that runs off the parking
- 22 lot.
- 23 MR. CHARLES: Thank you.
- MR. FRANCO: I just had a question of
- 25 the light fixtures along the property, they're 14

- - 1 forms, we will do that.
 - I just want to note to the board that
 - 3 the existing banquet function with the big kitchen
 - that they had for the weddings and the reunions and
 - such parties, our usage is proposed to go down for
 - sanitary sewage with our proposed use tonight.
 - MR. CHARLES: Excuse me, Mr. Folk. Mr. 7
 - Chairman.
 - MR. BOGART: Can you use the 9
 - 10 microphone?
 - MR. CHARLES: Just going back to Mr.
 - 12 Paulson's note, I understood what you to say was
 - 13 that the two tanks were removed, but I think the
 - 14 question had to do with remediation pending on
 - 15 environmental concerns.

 - MR. FOLK: We have no further action
 - 17 letters from the DEP on those.
 - 18 MR. CHARLES: Okay. Thank you.
 - MR. FOLK: Moving forward to Ms.
 - 20 Doyle's February 21, 2011, memorandum, I'll start on
 - 21 page 4, and this is where we're going to start
 - 22 referring to other experts that have a better answer
 - 23 for the questions for Ms. Doyle.
 - Item number one I'm going to defer to
 - 25 the landscape architect as it deals with landscape

- 1 issues.
- 2 Item number two, outdoor recreational
- 3 facilities are to be 100 feet setback from the
- 4 property line with properties greater than five
- 5 acres. Confirmation through testimony suggests that
- 6 to be assured that the record is clear as to
- 7 compliance, and that a definite distance is
- 8 established. We will comply with the hundred foot
- 9 setback from the property line, and if there's
- 10 further testimony to that, Ms. Doyle, I'll hear it
- 11 to provide it.
- 12 Item number three, solid waste
- 13 enclosure must be constructed of the same material
- 14 as the building. We will comply with that.
- 15 Item four is a traffic expert comment.
- 16 I will defer to our traffic expert in regard to item
- 17 four.
- 18 Number one under general planning
- 19 comments, I'd say we have our architect here tonight
- 20 who will discuss items number one, number two under
- 21 general items, number one under activities on page
- 22 5.
- 23 Moving on to page 6, item number two
- 24 under activities, anticipated noise in the
- 25 basketball court area. Human voice and artificial

- 1 suitable prohibition? They do not intend to use
- 2 public streets for parking.
- 3 Under number one, under noise, are
- 4 there any acoustical aspects of the worship or
- 5 events, activities which would be able to be heard
- 6 from outside? Reference made is to bells, amplified
- 7 or unamplified call to worship, outside
- 8 amplification system. The EIS states that there
- 9 will be no outside call to prayer. This should be
- 10 confirmed in testimony, and the purpose of the
- 11 minaret should be described. There will be no
- 12 broadcast to service, no outside acoustical aspects.
- 13 The minaret, we have an architect who will describe 14 it for you.
- 15 Item number two, what pieces of play
- 16 apparatus will be installed for the 40 children for
- 17 daycare? The purpose of this question is to be
- 18 advised as to height, lighting and et cetera. This
- 19 has not been determined yet. It will not be
- 20 lighted. It will not exceed any height
- 21 restrictions. We intend to work with Ms. Doyle on
- 22 the pieces of play apparatus to be provided.
- 23 Item number three, what was the
- 24 rationale for a basketball court to service a
- 25 daycare facility? The answer is that they have

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Page 13

- 1 noise that may occur from a backstop should be
- 2 described to the board. The focus is the noise that
- 3 may be experienced by the neighbors. I would
- 4 describe the physical activity as kids playing a
- 5 typical game of basketball, and that would be
- 6 similar to any backyard game in the neighborhood.
- 7 Item number one under building height,
- 8 defer to our architect.
- 9 Item number one under signs, we will
- 10 comply with the sign ordinance. We will comply with
- 11 number one, number two and number three.
- 12 Item number four, lighting of the sign,
- 13 if any, should be provided in detail. If there's
- 14 lighting, there should be restrictions on the time
- 15 of the illumination. Our proposal is illuminating
- 16 one hour before first service, one hour after last
- 17 service and the lighting for the sign will be ground
- 18 mounted lights.
- 19 Items under traffic, one, two, three,
- 20 four on page 6 and five on page 7, I will defer to
- 21 our traffic expert. Parking, number one, we'll
- 22 defer to our traffic expert.
- 23 Item number two under parking, does the
- 24 foundation intend to use any public streets for
- 25 parking or is it reasonable that this would be a

- 1 youth activities, grade school and older kids for
- 2 social activities that come to -- that stop by.
- 3 Landscaping on page 7, items one and
- 4 two I'll defer to the landscape architect.
- 5 Page 8, buffers, one, two, three,
- 6 refer -- defer to the landscape architect.
- 7 Building architecture items one through
- 8 five -- items one through five I'm going to defer to
- 9 the architect. I will answer a question on item
- 10 number five. Testimony as to type or security
- 11 lighting and details of the fixtures are shown on
- 12 the plans. There are three in the front and one on
- 13 the side. The testimony as to type is appropriate
- 14 particularly since security lighting is permitted to
- 15 be on at all times. The 20-foot high lights light
- 16 the front of the building parking area of the front
- 17 and the access aisles for safety with 288 watt
- 18 fixtures.
- 19 Recreational facilities, item number
- 20 one, this is -- again, we're going to discuss this
- 21 with the township planner as to what facilities to
- 22 be provided.
- On page 9, solid waste, item one, we
- 24 feel that the dumpster size is appropriate for the
- 25 proposed use. The ordinance requires a solid waste

- 1 to have two compartments, one for bulky trash and
- 2 the other for organic waste and the other for
- 3 organic waste generated. We will have a dumpster of
- 4 appropriate size and the recycling and trash as
- 5 appropriate.
- 6 Item wetlands, number one, a copy of
- 7 the wetlands map and report prepared by the DEP
- 8 should be provided to the secretary. That is not a
- 9 problem. We will provide that. The file currently
- 10 exists in the clerk's office on file, but we can
- 11 give you a copy of that as well.
- 12 Item number two, the approved wetlands
- 13 LOI map should be submitted to the township for the
- 14 board files. We will do that as well.
- 15 Item number three, NJDEP transition
- 16 area averaging approval is needed to effectuate this
- 17 plan. Has that approval been secured? If so, it
- 18 should be submitted to the township. The
- 19 application has not been secured yet, but when it
- 20 is, we will submit it.
- 21 Item number four, the DEP has
- 22 determined that the ornamental pond is not subject
- 23 to DEP jurisdiction. However, the pond will be
- 24 protected from eutrophication. The owner will
- 25 maintain the pond to provide the necessary service

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Page 20

- 1 that subject, could you identify what would be the
- 2 security light that will remain on? Where will they
- з be?
- 4 MR. FOLK: Well, okay. I'm sorry.
- 5 MR. COLLINS: If you know the answer to
- 6 that.
- 7 MR. FOLK: Do I know the answer to
- 8 that?
- 9 MR. COLLINS: Yes, if you know the
- 10 answer to that. If it's another person, you can
- 11 identify.
- MR. FOLK: No, no. I can tell you. I
- 13 just don't know if you'll be able to see it there.
- 14 One will be here.
- 15 MS. TUBMAN: For the record, when you
- 16 say here, will you say where here is?
- 17 MR. FOLK: Along the front of the
- 18 sidewalk of the building to the north there will be
- one there to the north, one about in the middle of
- 20 the building and one on the southeastern corner of
- 21 this access drive into the parking lot and one in
- 22 the middle of this building face here on the side --
- 23 beyond the sidewalk.
- MS. TUBMAN: Are those on the building,
- 25 actually attached to the building?

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1

- 1 to the pond to eliminate the eutrophication.
- 2 Item number one under lighting, lights
- 3 will be a total of 14 feet high including base and
- 4 20 feet high including base. The plan should be
- 5 revised to provide these dimensions. We will
- 6 provide that clarification.
- 7 Item number two, we will defer that to
- 8 the architect. That's the building lights.
- 9 Item number three, pursuant to 126-160,
- 10 lighting should be limited. Security lighting has
- 11 been shown, and the applicant should distinguish all
- 12 lights including sign lights at the time when people
- 13 have left the facility. Confirmation on this should
- 14 be provided. Previously, I mentioned that the
- 15 lights will be shut off one hour before -- shut off
- 16 one hour after the last service and turned -- --
- 17 well, the security lighting will be turned on one
- 18 hour -- the lighting will be turned on to secure one
- 19 hour after the last service and then turned off one
- 20 hour before the first service.
- 21 MS. TUBMAN: Security lighting will
- 22 remain on?
- MR. FOLK: Yes, spotlights on the
- 24 building.
- MR. COLLINS: Mr. Folk, while you're on

- MR. FOLK: No. None of these are on
- 2 the building. These are all stand-alone lights,
- 3 self-supporting. Yes.
- 4 MS. KANE: I just had -- I just have a
- 5 question about the last service of the day, because
- 6 I know you say the lights are going to be on one
- 7 hour after the last activity.
- 8 I know the daycare closes at six, but
- 9 are there services that will be on at night and the
- 10 lights on after that? Like is there an 8 o'clock at
- 11 night service?
- MS. TUBMAN: I don't think you can
- 13 answer that question, George, but we will have a
- 14 witness for Alfalah that will tell you the times of
- 15 all services.
- 16 MS. KANE: Okay. Thanks.
- 17 MR. FOLK: Okay. Item number --
- 18 MR. COLLINS: Sorry. Mr. Folk, if you
- 19 could just go back, those four security lights that
- 20 are on stand-alone poles, what type of lights are
- 21 they and what type of poles are they on?
- MR. FOLK: They're on 20-foot high light poles, 288 watt shielded flat shoe-box type
- 24 style.
- MR. COLLINS: And are they new poles

3

12

20

1 and new light fixtures?

We will provide that.

11 No, there are not.

19 be provided.

MR. FOLK: Yes, they are.

MR. COLLINS: Thank you.

5 do not have any spotlight on the building.

Item number five, free-standing lights

Item number six, are there any facade

Item seven, there's a street light at

13 the intersection of Mountaintop Road and the

16 the board. If the street light is for the benefit 17 of the applicant, the applicant should install

The lighting in the existing location

23 to put a light on it. That's their -- that's their

21 of the driveway is in this location. It will be --

22 the pole will be relocated if the PSE&G folks decide

24 prerogative. We are providing proposed lighting on

25 this access drive that will not be impacted by the

14 southerly driveway. Which pole is proposed for

18 lights on the premises. Testimony for that should

15 relocation? The new location should be presented to

10 or wash lighting or other lights on the building?

MR. FOLK: Okay. Item number four, we

in the parking lot should be offset from the curb.

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1 light is placed in the new location, you have no say

- 2 in that or recommendation or requirement to pay for
- 3 that. You're saying PSE&G has to do that.
- MR. FOLK: Correct.
- MR. CHARLES: Thank you. 5
- MR. FOLK: Under deeds, item one, we
- 7 will provide everything there under the bullets one,
- two, three and four and five.
- The last bullet, item D, for
- 10 maintenance of detention basin, we don't have a
- 11 basin proposed. I believe that's not necessary that
- 12 requirement for the maintenance of the detention
- 13 basin.
- 14 With regard to item number two, in that
- 15 bulleted item, there's a purported easement to PSE&G
- 16 must be extinguished in order to develop the
- property. The easement doesn't need to be
- 18 extinguished. It is okay as it is with that deed
- 19 that we have language in there. So it doesn't need
- 20 to be extinguished.
- Under other, number one, we will
- 22 provide a -- we will enter into a developer's
- 23 agreement with the town.
- Item two, I testified to the letter
- 25 from Mr. Paulson.

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Page 24

- 1 removal of that pole and light. We will provide a 2 safe condition at that intersection with our private
- 3 proposed lighting.
- MS. TUBMAN: For the transcript, the
- existing light is in the proposed driveway?
- MR. FOLK: Yes, that's correct. The
- 7 driveway will be widened in that location and that
- pole is destined to be removed.
- MR. CHARLES: Just to be clear, poles
- 10 being removed that currently has a light is a street
- 11 light?
- 12 MR. FOLK: Yes.
- MR. CHARLES: And it's up to PSE&G if 13
- 14 they want to put a street light back on?
- MR. FOLK: Right. The pole is being 15
- 16 relocated. So it's not that it's being removed, but
- 17 it will be relocated by them.
- MR. CHARLES: Right, based upon your 18
- 19 plan.
- 20 MR. FOLK: Correct. No. I don't tell
- 21 them where the plan is going.
- MR. CHARLES: They're relocating it 22
- 23 because of the plan to have the exit there.
- MR. FOLK: Yes. 24
- MR. CHARLES: Whether or not the street 25

- Item three, the sheet four states that
- 2 the southerly entrance will be the only access to
- 3 Mountaintop Road going into the construction phase.
- 4 The existing gravel drive located at the northern
- end that's up in this location here, it's an
- 6 existing driveway that serves the property today.
- 7 The existing gravel drive located at the northerly
- end of the property should be blocked off once
- construction begins. That will be done. We're
- going to landscape, topsoil, seed that area.
- 11 And item number four, the ornamental
- 12 pond is noted to remain. The foot bridge, bandstand
- 13 and associated area do not show up as being removed.
- 14 If this area is associated with community
- 15 activities, a description of the activities is
- 16 requested. The foot bridge will remain to access
- 17 the island in the pond. In the ornamental pond
- 18 there's a little wooden foot bridge, and people like
- 19 to go out on that.
- The bandstand will be taken out as part
- 21 of the reconstruction of the parking lot here. So
- 22 that will be removed, and there are no associated
- 23 community activities with this area.
- Any questions with Ms. Doyle's 24
- 25 comments?

- 2 Bogart's memorandum or letter to the board dated
- 3 February 23, 2011, and start on page 2 of 7 under

Moving on, I would move on to Mr.

- 4 policy number one. I'll defer item number one to
- 5 one of our members here associated with the mosque.
- Item two, the applicant must obtain
- approval of the proposed lot number from the
- township tax assessor. We will do that.
- Item number three, provide a plan
- 10 demonstrating that turning passing emergency
- 11 vehicles, bus vehicles and refuse trucks can
- 12 maneuver throughout the site. We can provide that.
- 13 All those vehicles mentioned can easily traverse
- 14 through the site as designed.
- 15 Item number four, I will defer that to
- 16 one of our traffic experts.
- Item number five on page 3 of 7, the 17
- 18 existing width of Mountaintop Road is 20 feet wide.
- 19 The applicant is proposing to widen the road along
- 20 the property frontage by five feet which is
- 21 acceptable. No vehicles will be permitted to park
- 22 along either side of Mountaintop Road. The board
- 23 can decide if Belgian block curb should be used. We
- 24 will comply with the board on this comment. At
- 25 present, we have Belgian block curb proposed.

- Item three, the proposed dumpster area
- 2 is located within an island in the parking area
- 3 surrounded by a parking space. It's been noted that

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- 4 the refuse and the site collection times in days
- 5 will be coordinated to occur during off-peak parking
- 6 times. We're going to comply with that. That's our 7 proposal.
- Item four, additional stop signs, stop
- 9 bar is recommended to be provided near the northerly
- 10 approach from the parking area toward the main
- 11 access drive to ensure public safety. That's in
- 12 this location here. We will provide that.
- Item five, some type of aesthetically
- 14 pleasing guide rail -- guardrail or fence should be
- 15 placed at the pond where it is adjacent to the
- 16 parking spaces areas along the curb line. I believe
- 17 it's this location, and we will provide that, a
- 18 split rail type or other unobtrusive type of fence
- 19 in that location.
- Number eight is a handicapped ramp. We
- 21 will comply with all ADA standards and requirements.
- 22 Cross over on sidewalks, the proposed crosswalks --
- 23 I'm sorry. The proposed crosswalks shall be revised
- 24 to be six feet wide in this area here from the
- 25 sidewalk that comes into the side that cross into

- 1 the main aisle. We will provide that.
 - Item B, grading, number one, we will,
 - 3 again, comply with all ADA slope standards as well
 - 4 as item number two. In regard to ADA requirements,

 - we will comply with.
 - C, swale, water management, item one,
 - 7 Bob, if you want me to go through one, two, three,
 - 8 four, five, six, seven, I will just say I will
 - 9 comply.
 - MR. BOGART: That's satisfactory. 10
 - And does the board or the audience have 11
 - 12 questions? But for now, it's satisfactory.
 - MR. FOLK: Do you want me to go through 13
 - 14
 - MR. CHARLES: Give me one minute to go 15
 - 16 back and refresh.
 - MR. FOLK: Item D, utilities on page 6 17
 - 18 and 7, it's again items one, two, three -- one, two
 - and three we will provide. We will comply with the
 - 20 utilities. Sanitary sewer flow calculations, we
 - 21 will provide all the necessary information.

 - And item E, landscaping and lighting,
 - 23 it's deferred some comments to Ms. Doyle. We will
 - 24 note that comment. We do have a letter from
 - 25 Somerset County Planning Board indicating that the

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Item number six, the applicant has

- 2 noted that the proposed daycare center will be open
- 3 to the public. That is correct.
- Item seven will be deferred to our
- architect in regard to the kitchen use.
- Item eight, in accordance with
- Ordinance Section 126-331B, conservation easements
- shall be provided to contain all wetland areas in
- the DEP required buffer around the wetland area. We will provide that. 10
- Item 9, provide meets and bounds 11
- 12 descriptions for all easements, dedications, et
- 13 cetera, for approval. We will do that as well.
- Item 10, a permit from DEP will be 14
- 15 provided for all impacts, disturbances, existing
- wetlands, associated buffers. We will get a
- wetlands DEP permit for those efforts. 17 Item 11 we will comply with as well. 18
- It's a responsible for calling before you dig. 19
- On technical, page 4 of 7, item one, 20
- 21 we're going to defer that to traffic expert.
- Item two, we will provide six and a 22
- 23 half foot sidewalks in areas of parking spaces
- 24 abutting the sidewalk and current plans show 6 feet. We will widen it by half a foot.

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- 1 plan is the county planning board.
- 2 MS. TUBMAN: The application is
- 3 approved conditioned upon a payment toward the
- 4 traffic light that's already been installed.
- 5 MR. FOLK: Thank you. Those are the
- 6 comments that I have. Are there any questions on
- 7 those comments?
- 8 MS. TUBMAN: Questions by the board?
- 9 MR. MOENCH: Good evening. I have a
- 10 few comments, and I'm going to try to follow my
- 11 notes. Forgive me if I bounce around on topics a
- 12 little bit.
- For discussion on the lighting, do you
- 14 have plans that you're able to show us now that
- 15 show -- and I forget the right lighting terminology,
- 16 that show how we're talking about the lighting, the
- 17 area that they anticipate the lights will impact so
- 18 the board and the public has an understanding of for
- 19 all these lots, especially security lights that are
- 20 being proposed to stay on all night, that we
- 21 understand what areas are going to be proposed?
- 22 Particularly, I'm concerned about the
- 23 lights that are facing the direction towards the
- 24 bottom. They're facing the residences that we see
- 25 along the bottom line there.

- 1 light was turned on at one time. Is that correct?
- 2 MR. FOLK: That's correct.
- 3 MR. MOENCH: Do you know how the
- 4 current parking lot lighting at the Redwood Inn
- 5 compares to what's being proposed?
- 6 MR. FOLK: I couldn't answer that. I
- 7 didn't do a study on that. I'm sorry.
- 8 MR. MOENCH: And what, if any, lighting
- 9 is proposed towards the rear of the building?
- MR. FOLK: Here's the building here.
- 11 MR. MOENCH: Correct.
- MR. FOLK: Back here?
- 13 MR, MOENCH; Yes.
- MR. FOLK: We have the architect here.
- 15 He may discuss some type of -- what are they, high
- 16 hats? They call them soffit lighting.
- 17 MR. MOENCH: I'll ask questions about
- 18 that. I know the landscape engineer will talk about
- 19 buffering along the property lines.
- Is there anything being proposed right
- 21 now from a structural standpoint in order to keep
- 22 children from leaving the property or to keep other
- 23 people from wandering onto the property while the
- 24 daycare is in process such as a fence or some other
- 25 barrier that would stop anybody from going in or off
- Page 30
- 1 the property on foot?
- 2 MR. FOLK: Well, there is a fence, sir,
- 3 in this location here for child's play area
- 4 supervised during the daycare times. You know,
- 5 they're not going to be left unattended.
- 6 MR. MOENCH: I understand. I'm talking
- 7 about is there anything -- nothing being proposed
- 8 currently that would be a fence of any kind --
- 9 MR. FOLK: No. No.
- MR. MOENCH: -- that would stop folks
- 11 from wandering in or off the property?
- 12 MR. FOLK: No, sir.
- MR. MOENCH: What, if any, disturbance
- 14 is being made to the current parking lot area?
- 15 In other words, are they reducing
- 16 impervious coverage? Is that changing, the current
- 17 parking lot from what it is now?
- 18 MR. FOLK: We're making the parking lot
- 19 smaller.
- 20 MR. MOENCH: Where are the changes
- 21 going to be?
- MR. FOLK: Greg, sheet five or sheet
- 23 four, grading, sheet 4 of 12. Thank you.
- In this location right here, this is
- 25 the edge of the existing parking lot today as it

- Pa
- 1 MR. FOLK: Okay. Thank you. I believe 2 what you're asking for -- this is Geiger Lane. When
- 3 you say the bottom --
- 4 MR. MOENCH: Yes, yes, Geiger Lane.
- 5 MR. FOLK: This is Geiger Lane.
- 6 MS. TUBMAN: Name the plan sheet before
- 7 you start.
- 8 MR. FOLK: Yes. Plan sheet --
- 9 MR. RODZINAK: Five of 12 I think is
- 10 what you have.
- 11 MR. FOLK: I'm sorry?
- MR. RODZINAK: Plan sheet 5 of 12.
- 13 MR. FOLK: Yes. Thank you. Maybe
- 14 you're talking about the iso lot lines. They're
- 15 very hard to see. They look like clouds. Is that
- 16 what you're referring to?
- 17 MR. MOENCH: Yes.
- 18 MR. FOLK: They're shown on here at .5
- 19 foot candles. Every one of these spots that we see
- 20 are values of foot candles. Mostly, these are all
- 21 zero at the property line here. One of these down 22 here is zero foot candles attributed from our
- 23 lights.
- MR. MOENCH: What you're showing right
- 25 here, that's for all the lights on the -- if every

1 goes -- comes outside the property line a little bit

- 2 and then follows the property line up. Our proposal
- 3 is to bring it in. You know, this is going to turn
- 4 into lawn area and, as you see, heavily landscaped
- 5 with our landscape designs.
- MR. MOENCH: And is there any regrading
- of that area in terms of impacting one way or the
- other the drainage coming off the property on
- that -- the man-made drainage that you talked about?
- MR. FOLK: No, sir. No. We're 10
- 11 maintaining the same conditions. Everything drains
- 12 to the back here. It drops into this man-made
- 13 ditch -- water drains down the parking lot today as
- it is proposed and then there is a man-made ditch
- 15 that comes down here into this gully that comes out
- 16 to Geiger Lane, and that all those conditions are to
- be continued. No changes. 17
- 18 MR. MOENCH: And has there been any
- 19 study or confirmation that the current man-made
- 20 ditch that is there is, in fact, able to handle the
- 21 drainage that's currently on the property?
- I understand it's the same. What's 22
- 23 there is there now. But has anything been done to
- 24 show that is, in fact, sufficient versus needs to
- 25 make improvements on this?

- 1 for my knowledge, after it leaves the Redwood Inn
- 2 property, where does it go?
- MR. FOLK: It goes down a 20-foot wide
- 4 drainage easement according to the filed map for the
- Geiger Lane subdivision right here.
- Greg, can you slide everything to the
- 7 left a little bit? Yeah. Thank you. It comes down
- 8 here, and it comes down here, and this is the
- culvert for Geiger Lane, and it's a very, you know,
- 10 deep gully.
- MR, MOENCH: Do you know is that 11
- 12 maintained by the township or is it residents? Do
- 13 you know who maintains it?
- MR. FOLK: I don't know who maintains 14
- 15 that.
- MR. MOENCH: When you determined the 16
- 17 amount of lighting on the parking lot, how was
- 18 that -- I don't know if it's an architect question.
- 19 I can ask the architect how is it determined, how
- 20 many lights he needed in the parking lot and the
- 21 type and height of the lights.
- MR. FOLK: We have a lighting expert 22
- 23 who lays out the parking lot according to the
- 24 township ordinance for lighting requirements. So
- 25 that the lighting -- the township has a lighting

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- MR. FOLK: Yes. We've looked at this
- 2 ditch. Yes. It's got a nice slope heading
- 3 downstream. It doesn't flatten out. So it doesn't
- 4 pond anywhere. It's got good drainage conditions.
- MR. MOENCH: Other than just observing
- 6 physical conditions of it, has there been any tests
- 7 or surveys or anything conducted to ensure that the
- 8 anticipated runoff is able to be contained by the
- drainage ditch that's at the property there?
- MR. FOLK: Well, we haven't done any
- 11 detailed studies of that ditch as we're reducing
- 12 impervious coverage and reducing the runoff. Now,
- 13 if there was conditions in the past, I haven't heard
- 14 of any from the previous owners who own the Redwood
- 15 Inn for years. So I hadn't heard any -- the
- 16 township hasn't brought any complaints to us in my
- 17 knowledge of any issues with Geiger Lane there and
- 18 the culvert. I don't recall ever an issue back
- 19 there.
- MR. MOENCH: And that drainage ditch, 20
- 21 would be maintained by the property owners or
- 22 township or who will maintain that?
- MR. FOLK: That will be maintained by 23
- the property owners, this property owner. 24
- MR. MOENCH: And can you explain just

- 1 ordinance for standard of height and illumination 2 minimums, and those are carried through in the
- 3 design, and the lighting expert that we use tries to
- 4 create a lighting solution that is conforming to your vision.
- It doesn't have hot spots, bright
- 7 spots, dark areas. Everything is a properly lit
- 8 safe condition. So, you know, you don't want it too
- 9 bright and you don't want it too dark.
- MR. MOENCH: What, if any, changes to
- 11 the grading is going to be done to the back portion
- of the property where the children's play area is
- 13 going to be?
- MR. FOLK: No changes. 14
- MR. MOENCH: No changes. I may have a 15
- 16 few more questions. I don't know if other board
- 17 members want to jump in. I have to go back and
- 18 check my notes.
- AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can we ask questions
- 20 now or are you reserving the time for questions? CHAIRMAN RUSAK: No. Questions will be
- 21
- 22 asked when we open the meeting up to the public
- 23 portion as I stated when we started off. So I will 24 make an announcement meeting is open for the public,
- 25 and then you can come to the microphone and ask your

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- 1 questions at that time.
- MR. MOENCH: I think that's all my
- 3 questions for the moment.
- MR. FOLK: Okay. If you have, answer
- 5 away -- or ask away. Any further questions of the
- 6 board?
- MR. COLLINS: Lloyd, any further
- questions of this witness from you?
- MS. TUBMAN: Not at the moment. 9
- MR. COLLINS: We will open questions to 10
- 11 this witness. Questions only by persons whether or
- 12 not represented by counsel. If you're represented
- 13 by counsel, the attorney will ask the questions for
- 14 you. So please come forward, and, Mr. Folk, if you
- 15 would sit at your table with your mike, people will
- 16 go to the other mike.
- Please come forward, Mr. Eisdorfer. 17
- 18 Maybe there are two attorneys that want to make an
- 19 appearance, and they might want to put that on the
- 20 record, and if there are any other attorneys who
- 21 want to make an appearance, they should do so now.
- MR. EISDORFER: My name is Steve 22
- 23 Eisdorfer from the law firm Hill Wallack, LLP. I'm
- 24 appearing tonight on behalf of the Running Brook
- 25 Homeowners Association and the Manors at Running

- 1 contract purchaser the Chughtai Foundation. So
- 2 there is that change to the plans.
- MR. EISDORFER: Okay. Thank you. 3
- But the grading plan itself has not
- changed since 2011?
- MR. FOLK: No. 6
- MR. EISDORFER: Now, on this plan, 7
- 8 can -- did you do an analysis of the magnitude of
- disturbance?
- MR. FOLK: Yes. 10
- MR. EISDORFER: Okay. And can you show 11
- 12 us where on -- where on the site there's going to be
- 13 disturbance?
- MR. FOLK: The site has a limited
- 15 disturbance along the southerly property line behind
- 16 the curve or behind the -- along the man-made ditch.
- 17 It follows this fence around the fence and goes by
- 18 the building here around and then it follows out the
- 19 edge of the woods here and then down obviously
- 20 Mountaintop and back around here.
- MR. EISDORFER: Now, you've showed us a 21
- 22 line. What's the width of the disturbance along
- 23 that line?
- AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear you. 24
- 25 MR. EISDORFER: I can't see the map

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- 1 from where the mike is.
- MR. FOLK: Do you want to use this map?
- MR. EISDORFER: No. It's only going to
- 4 show up there so everybody can see it and not just
- me, but I'll just move back and forth.
- So with your pointer, you have shown us
- a line, and you've run your pointer along a line.
- Can you tell us what's the width of the disturbance
- along that line?
- MR. FOLK: That line denotes areas --
- 11 that line denotes a boundary of area within that
- solid peripheral line. So all the disturbance is
- within that -- that's a boundary line of
- 14 disturbance.
- MR. EISDORFER: That boundary line
- 16 encompasses the entire site. Is it your claim that
- 17 the entire site is going to be disturbed?
- MR. FOLK: I'm sorry? 18
- MR. EISDORFER: That line encompasses 19
- 20 the entire site.
- MR. FOLK: That line encompasses 41,837 21
- 22 square feet.
- MR. EISDORFER: Show us where those
- 24 locations are. You've just shown us a line one
- 25 pointer across.

1 Brook Property Owners Association.

- MR. MC NAMARA: I'm Patrick Mc Namara.
- 3 I'm with the law firm of Scarinci Hollenbeck. I'm
- 4 here on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Rinaldi who
- 5 are adjacent homeowners to the site.
- MR. COLLINS: Thank you, gentlemen.
- Please start with Mr. Eisdorfer and go ahead.
- MR. EISDORFER: Thank you. Mr. Folk, I
- 9 just want to make something clear on exactly what
- 10 documents we're looking at. I'm -- you have up
- 11 there sheet four of the application.
- MR. FOLK: Correct? 12
- MR. EISDORFER: And what's the date of 13
- 14 that sheet?
- MR. FOLK: December 22, 2010. Last 15
- 16 revised February 7, 2011.
- MR. EISDORFER: And have there been any 17
- 18 subsequent changes to that upgraded plan?
- 19 MS. TUBMAN: Just before we get to the
- 20 particular plans, these plans are the identical
- 21 plans filed with the last application with the first
- 22 set of revisions in response to comments, and there
- 23 is a subsequent change in the identification of the 24 property owner which is now Alfalah Center.
- Previously, the applicant was a

- 1 confident that that number is correct?
- MR. FOLK: I'm confident that that
- 3 number is correct.
- MR. EISDORFER: Now, you prepared a
- stormwater management plan --
- MR, FOLK: Yes.
- MR. EISDORFER: -- in this matter. Has
- 8 that stormwater management plan been submitted to
- the DEP?
- MR. FOLK: With this application, no,
- 11 it has not.
- MR. EISDORFER: The DEP doesn't have
- 13 jurisdiction over that plan?
- MR. FOLK: What plan? 14
- MR, EISDORFER: The stormwater 15
- 16 management plan.
- MR. FOLK: When we file for DEP 17
- 18 permits, they'll have jurisdiction.
- MR. EISDORFER: Are you applying for
- 20 the permit which requires DEP stormwater approval of
- 21 the plan?
- MR. FOLK: Yes, we will. 22
- MR. EISDORFER: Which permit is that? 23
- MR. FOLK: Whatever permits after this 24
- 25 application is reviewed by the township. We will

- MR. FOLK: Disturbance is the parking
- 2 lot, the driveway aisle, the parking lot in front of
- 3 the building and then the driveway aisle to the
- 4 north, and there's some removal of an existing
- 5 driveway further north that will be landscaped area,
- 6 and the building is the building and then the area
- 7 to the back for the fence for the play area.
- MR. EISDORFER: And you calculated
- 9 that -- that disturbance using the definitions and
- 10 in Bridgewater's ordinance?
- MR. FOLK: We -- the area is not by
- 12 definitions. It's by an actual calculation of
- 13 what's the -- what that line bounds. It's a
- 14 boundary line.
- MR. EISDORFER: In terms of what 1.5
- 16 activities constitute disturbance, did you calculate
- 17 that in accordance with Bridgewater's ordinance?
- MR. FOLK: Yes. 18
- MR. EISDORFER: And do you know what --19
- 20 under that ordinance what activities constitute
- 21 disturbance?
- MR. FOLK: Tell me the ordinance number 22
- 23 and I'll tell you.
- 24 MR. EISDORFER: 1.6-2.
- MR. FOLK: 1.6-2. So you're going with 25

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- 1 the definition of disturbance.
- MR. EISDORFER: That's what I'm asking
- 3 you. Is that the definition you used?
- MR. FOLK: Yes.
- MR. EISDORFER: Why don't you read that
- 6 so everyone knows?
- MR. FOLK: Any activity involving the
- 8 clearing, excavating, storing, grading, filling or
- transporting of soil or any other activity which
- 10 causes soil to be exposed to the danger of erosion.
- MR. EISDORFER: Now, are there areas 11
- 12 that you are removing existing impervious coverage
- 13 that you did not include in disturbance?
- MR. FOLK: No. 14
- MR. EISDORFER: And tell me what your 15
- 16 total figure for disturbance was?
- MR. FOLK: Forty-one thousand eight 17
- hundred and thirty-seven. 18
- MR. EISDORFER: Now, is that in excess
- 20 of one acre?
- MR. FOLK: No. 21
- MR. EISDORFER: The number again? 22
- MR. FOLK: Forty-one thousand eight 23
- 24 hundred and thirty-seven.
- MR. EISDORFER: Okay. And you're

- 1 comply with all the applications that the DEP
- 2 requires us to apply for.
- MR. EISDORFER: Well, are you applying 3
- 4 for a flood-hazard area permit?
- 5 MR. FOLK: No.
- MR. EISDORFER: Well, what permits are
- 7 you going to apply for that require DEP approval of
- your stormwater management plan?
- MR, FOLK: Wetlands disturbance 9
- 10 permits.
- MR. EISDORFER: Are you actually
- 12 disturbing wetlands or just doing a transition area
- averaging. 13
- MR. FOLK: We're doing transition 14
- 15 averaging.
- MR. EISDORFER: Does that require the
- 17 DEP looking at stormwater management in the context
- of transition area averaging application?
- MR. FOLK: No, but they can. 19
- MR. EISDORFER: So if they don't, it's 20
- 21 this board that has jurisdiction over the stormwater
- 22 management plan?
- MR. FOLK: That's correct. 23
- MR. EISDORFER: And it would have to 24
- 25 comply with the municipality's ordinances?

Page 45 Page 47 MR. FOLK: Absolutely. MR. FOLK: No. 1 1 2 MR. EISDORFER: You submitted an 2 MR. EISDORFER: No. 3 engineering report which contains your stormwater MR. FOLK: I followed the ordinance. 3 4 management plan. MR. EISDORFER: The ordinance says 4 MR. FOLK: Yes. count the number of seats. MR. EISDORFER: And that's dated --MR. FOLK: Correct. 6 б 7 what's the date? Revised December 2010, revised 7 MR. EISDORFER: So is that how you determined it, you counted the number of seats? 8 March 2011? MR. FOLK: No. I backed into it by the MR. FOLK: That's correct. 9 9 10 amount of people, 500 people. MR. EISDORFER: That's correct, and 10 MR. EISDORFER: Well, the ordinance 11 have you made any --11 MR. FOLK: No. 12 doesn't talk about people. It talks about seats. 12 MR. EISDORFER: -- amendments to that MR. FOLK: This application doesn't 13 14 plan? 14 have seats except for there are areas where there are seats for people to sit. 15 MR. FOLK: No. MR. EISDORFER: Does that plan contain MR. EISDORFER: Does it have benches? 16 16 17 the entirety of your analysis? 17 Did you count the number of benches? MR. FOLK: Correct. MR. FOLK: No, sir. 1.8 18 MR. EISDORFER: Thank you. MR. EISDORFER: It doesn't have benches 19 19 Now, you described the parking. How 20 here either. 20 21 did you determine the correct number of parking MR. FOLK: I'm going to defer to our 21 22 spaces? 22 traffic expert. MR. FOLK: The number of persons --MR. EISDORFER: Does it have benches? 23 23 24 maximum number of persons provided to our office MR. FOLK: I doubt it. It could have, 25 were used as a worst case scenario and then followed 25 not for the use of the mosque itself, but there are Page 46 Page 48 1 the ordinance for determination. 1 office space where people can sit at their desk. MR. EISDORFER: What is the ordinance MR. EISDORFER: So you couldn't 2 з standard? 3 actually calculate it based on this ordinance since 4 this ordinance says count seats or count benches? MR. FOLK: One space per 72 inches of 4 5 bench or one space per three seats. MR. FOLK: Correct. 5 MR. EISDORFER: Are you actually MR. EISDORFER: So you used a different 6 7 reading it to us? 7 formula? MR. FOLK: Yes. MR. FOLK: Correct. 8 MR. EISDORFER: I believe it says one MR. EISDORFER: Were you the person who 9 10 determined what that formula should be? 10 space reached for three spaces or one space for each 11 72 inches of seating spaces when benches rather than 11 MR. FOLK: No. 12 seats are used. MR. EISDORFER: Who determined what 12 How did you determine how many seats 13 that formula should be? 13 14 there were going to be? MR. FOLK: Our traffic expert. 14 15 MR. FOLK: I'm going to defer that to 15 MR. EISDORFER: All right. I'll ask 16 our traffic expert. 16 all my questions to the traffic expert. I have no MR. EISDORFER: To your knowledge, does 17 further questions. 17 18 it have seats? MR. MC NAMARA: For the record, Patrick 18 19 Mc Namara of the law firm Scarinci Hollenbeck on 19 MR. FOLK: There are seats. MS. TUBMAN: There are mats. 20 behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Rinaldi. 20 MR. FOLK: There are seats in the Mr. Folk, did you prepare an 21 21

23

22 building as well.

25 in the building?

MR. EISDORFER: Is that how you

24 calculated the number based on the number of seats

24

25 office.

22 environmental impact statement as part of the

MR. FOLK: It was provided by our

23 application package?

MR.
 grab it.

11

12

14

19

23

13 it.

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- 1 50 feet of parking lot that is here today inside
- 2 this buffer of 50 feet will be removed, and it will
- 3 be landscaped, topsoil, seeded. So I would say
- 4 that's a reduction in improvement coverage if that's
- 5 your question, sir.
- 6 MR. MC NAMARA: Yes. Okay. Thank you.
- 7 Is it the applicant's intention to seek
- 8 an updated letter of interpretation since this
- 9 letter only allows you to rely upon it for a
- 10 five-year period?
- 11 MS. TUBMAN: That's really a legal
- 12 question. The Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act
- 13 makes the letter of interpretation optional with the
- 14 property owner. It is not an obligation.
- 15 I don't know, without looking at the
- 16 state plan, whether the LOI is automatically
- 17 extended by the Permit Extension Act. If it is not,
- 18 it is still not required by the department.
- MR. MC NAMARA: Could you describe
- 20 the -- in your report you mentioned -- I'll get to
- 21 the right page. I'm sorry. The pages actually
- 22 aren't numbered.
- 23 It mentions that you're going to
- 24 install a Stormceptor unit. Could you please
- 25 describe how that functions and where it will be
- Page 50
- MR. MC NAMARA: And the wetlands you
- 2 identified include those next to the drainage system

MR, MC NAMARA: It says prepared by on

2 the top page that I have that's dated December 2010

3 with you and Mr. David Stires Associates.

6 report, there's a letter of interpretation, DEP7 that's dated December 16, 2008. Are you familiar

MR. MC NAMARA: At the rear of that

MR. FOLK: Give me one second and I'll

MR. FOLK: Go ahead. I'm familiar with

MR. MC NAMARA: In the paragraph at the

page it mentioned that some of the wetlands on the

17 property are of ordinary resource value and some are

20 screen behind you which ones have been classified as

15 bottom of the first page and the start of the second

Could you highlight on the map on the

MR. FOLK: Wetlands to the north were

24 intermediate and the wetlands to the east were

25 intermediate and the isolated were ordinary.

21 ordinary resource and which ones have been

MR. FOLK: That's correct.

with the context of this letter, sir?

MR. MC NAMARA: Okay.

18 intermediate resource value.

22 classified as intermediate?

- 3 that runs off your client's property and I'll say my
- 4 client's property?
- 5 MR. FOLK: Yes, that's correct.
- 6 MR. MC NAMARA: What is the buffering
- 7 requirement for the intermediate resource value
- 8 wetlands under DEP regulations?
- 9 MR. FOLK: Fifty feet.
- 10 MR. MC NAMARA: Okay. And the parking
- 11 area that's located in the transition area to the
- 12 left of the existing wetlands, has that area been
- 13 previously disturbed by the existing parking and
- 14 other facilities at the Redwood Inn?
- 15 MR. FOLK: Yes.
- MR. MC NAMARA: And is the disturbance
- 17 that is proposed by the applicant greater or lesser
- 18 than that that was previously there in that
- 19 transition area?
- 20 MR. FOLK: It's less.
- 21 MR. MC NAMARA: Is that by any
- 22 approximate calculation or --
- MR. FOLK: Today the parking lot goes
- 24 into that buffer 50 feet. At least we're going to
- 25 cut that 50 feet of parking lot out and put in this

- 1 located?
 - MR. FOLK: The location is adjacent to
 - 3 the building and on the southerly side of the
 - 4 existing Redwood Inn, and what it's going to do is
 - 5 pick up drainage along the front of the building.
 - 6 The water, again, it drains in a left to right on
 - 7 this map on sheet four of five, and then the
 - 8 drainage that's coming down the driveway here we're
 - 9 going to pick up in inlets and connect the pipes and
 - 10 then tie that into a Stormceptor to remove suspended
 - 11 solids and then that water will then drain off to
 - 12 where it went before.
 - 13 All these features are improvements to
 - 14 the existing site.
 - MR. MC NAMARA: Are the drainage inlets
 - 16 in the parking lot tied to that unit?
 - 17 MR. FOLK: No, sir.
 - 18 MR. MC NAMARA: Where then will that
 - 19 runoff be treated in some manner before it reaches
 - 20 to the wetlands or to the drainage system?
 - MR. FOLK: The water today drains from
 - 22 this parking lot straight down into this man-made
 - 23 ditch. Over years and years of time, this west side
 - 24 or left side, for the audience, parking lot side is
 - 25 full of debris, broken concrete -- or broken

. |

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- 1 asphalt, rocks, broken bottles. It's seen better
- 2 days.
- 3 Our proposal is, before this runoff
- 4 comes into this drainage ditch, we're going to
- 5 provide a filter strip of vegetation material and
- 6 maintain it to provide enhanced water quality before
- 7 it leaves our site.
- 8 MR. MC NAMARA: Could you describe what
- 9 the maintenance requirements would be for that type
- 10 of use of the property?
- 11 MR. FOLK: Policing of trash,
- 12 maintenance of the vegetation length, cutting the
- 13 grass.
- MR. MC NAMARA: Are you concerned that
- 15 any residual petrochemicals that are in the parking
- 16 lot from the cars in the normal course of the lot
- 17 being used will be adequately treated for that as
- 18 opposed to tying the lot into the Stormceptor unit?
- MR. FOLK: That's a condition that we
- 20 have proposed right now. The DEP has to act on the
- 21 approval of it.
- We contend that the vegetated buffer
- 23 strip provides enhanced water quality for those
- 24 petrochemicals as you discuss. Anything is better
- 25 than nothing, and, you know, the petrochemicals into

- 1 responsibility of the maintenance for that is the
- 2 responsibility of the township?
- 3 MR. FOLK: I'm now aware of that.
- 4 Thank you.

- 5 MR. MC NAMARA: With regard to your
- 6 follow-up with the design of the rest of the
- 7 facilities and the property, are you aware of any
- 8 calculation that's been made for the maximum
- 9 occupancy of the entire building?
- 10 MR. FOLK: We'll defer that to the
- 11 architect.
- MR. MC NAMARA: Has your office been
- 13 consulted any manner in ensuring that adequate fire
- 14 flows are there based upon the use of the
- 15 population, not population, but the potential
- 16 occupancy of the building?
- 17 MR. FOLK: We will comply with all fire
- 18 code requirements. Again, the building was a
- 19 banquet hall that held weddings and reunions, et
- 20 cetera. We feel the facility has been tested
- 21 and over the 50, 60 or 70 years of its existence
- 22 have performed well.
- MR. MC NAMARA: What I'm asking, and
- 24 maybe you're not the right person to answer the
- 25 question, is, in part, whether in consultation with

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- 1 a Stormceptor is not what really the Stormceptor is
- 2 for. It typically is for suspended solids and road
- 3 grits. It does have an ability to absorb some kind
- 4 of oils that will float but, typically, not the
- 5 petrochemicals.
- 6 MR. MC NAMARA: Would the Stormceptor
- 7 be able to handle the flow from the parking lot if
- 8 it was tied into the Stormceptor as opposed to the
- 9 filter strip you're proposing?
- 10 MR. FOLK: No.
- MR. MC NAMARA: It doesn't have the
- 12 capacity to handle it?
- 13 MR. FOLK: Correct.
- MR. MC NAMARA: Have you inspected the
- 15 drainage easement that runs through my client's
- 16 property as part of preparing this application?
- 17 MR. FOLK: Yes, I have.
- 18 MR. MC NAMARA: And what condition did
- 19 you find it when you inspected it?
- 20 MR. FOLK: Typical drainage ditch from
- 21 years of just being there. Typical what you would
- 22 see on any stream in the woods or ditch in the
- 23 woods, dry most times, and during conditions of
- 24 rainfall, it conveys water.
- MR. MC NAMARA: Are you aware that the

- 1 subcode officials or anyone else, has anyone
- 2 determined that the potential occupancy limit
- 3 matches with the design of what is being done for
- 4 fire fighting purposes or fire sprinkler type of
- 5 facilities to be put into the building?
- 6 MR. FOLK: That I'll defer to the
- 7 architect
- 8 MR. MC NAMARA: Okay. I have no
- 9 further questions of the witness at this time.
- 10 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Are there any members
- 11 of the public -- I'm sorry. Are there any members
- 12 of the public that would like to come forward? The
- 13 gentleman over here.
- MR. NOGUEROL: Hello. Name is Dave
- 15 Noguerol, I'm a resident of the township.
- MR. COLLINS: Raise your right hand.
- 17 Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth, the whole
- 18 truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?
- 19 MR. NOGUEROL: I do.
- 20 MR. COLLINS: Please spell your last
- 21 name.
- 22 MR. NOGUEROL: I will. I would ask
- 23 that the reporter from the media just keep it out of
- 24 the newspaper if that's okay. That's spelled N,
- 25 like Nancy, O-G-U-E-R-O-L.

1

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- MR. COLLINS: And the address? 2 board of adjustment for a variance to deviate from a MR. NOGUEROL: North Mountain Avenue.
- 3 Maybe it's me -- I just have a comment. It's
- 4 extremely difficult to read this map if you don't do
- 5 this for a living. It would be really helpful to
- 6 have it color coded. Maybe it's me, but raise your 7 that.
- 7 hand if you find it very difficult to read the maps. 8 We got a few hands raised. Maybe we can identify --
- 9 it would be really helpful to identify the footprint
- 10 of the dwelling, the actual outline. Yeah, it's
- 11 here, but it's not here. It's really difficult to
- 12 see, and then a different color for all of the homes
- 13 and houses in the residential area. I think it
- would be really helpful for everyone here.
- Before I have a question, I have a 15
- 16 comment or I have a question for the board. Could
- you raise your hand which, if any, of you served
- 18 during the last place of worship that's built on
- 19 202/206? Raise your hand if you were in the
- 20 position when that took place. One hand went up.
- 21 Can you raise your hand?
- So no one on the board was in an active 22
- 23 role when that dwelling was built. Only one person.
- 24 Okay. That's interesting.
- Mr. Folk, you had mentioned a few 25

- 1 significant growth without our coming back to the

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- 3 condition of a conditional use.
- MR. NOGUEROL: But the answer is not
- 5 no. It could possibly include future growth.
- MS. TUBMAN: I have no knowledge of
- MR. NOGUEROL: What is the current
- 9 heighth of the Redwood Inn building and what is the
- 10 proposed heighth of the new dwelling?
- MR. FOLK: We'll defer that to the 11
- 12 architect.
- MR. NOGUEROL: Okay. You said you're 13
- going to reduce the number of parking spaces. Are
- 15 the current number -- I believe you said you were
- 16 going to reduce it.
- MR. FOLK: The parking lot area. 17
- MR. NOGUEROL: Yeah. I'm trying to 18
- 19 understand if you're reducing the number of parking
- spaces of what they currently have but, yet, you
- want to widen the road, can you show me which part
- 22 of the road you want to widen and also identify
- 23 which area you want to widen the sidewalk? I
- 24 believe you said you wanted to widen the road five
- 25 feet, from 20 to 25 feet which road?

- 1 things, and I am not an engineer for the record.
- 2 Future growth, is there any plans based on what you
- 3 outlined here to provide any additional future
- 4 growth if necessary?
- MR. FOLK: Not that I'm aware of.
- 6 Could you tell me exactly again where your location 7 is?
- MR. NOGUEROL: North Mountain Avenue. 8
- MR. FOLK: Where is that? 9
- MR. NOGUEROL: It's the last street in 10
- 11 Bridgewater, the furthest east.
- MR. FOLK: Not on Mountaintop Road. 12
- MR. NOGUEROL: No, no. I take that 13
- 14 road many times. I have friends that live up there.
- 15 I have many friends I visit there. I used to live
- 16 off Mountaintop.
- MR. FOLK: I couldn't place it. 17
- MR. NOGUEROL: Based on the current 18
- 19 plans, could you accommodate future growth?
- MR. FOLK: I would defer that to the 20
- 21 architect.
- MS. TUBMAN: As a conditional use, we 22
- 23 are allowed one square foot of building for 20
- 24 square feet of land area and we approached that
- 25 total. So the answer is there could be no

- MR. FOLK: The Mountaintop Road. 1
- MR. NOGUEROL: And the sidewalk. 2
- MR. FOLK: The sidewalk is any sidewalk 3
- 4 that abuts a parking space. So the sidewalk to this
- 5 location right here would be widened from six feet
- 6 to six and a half feet. This is the south side of
- 7 the building.
- MR. NOGUEROL: Okay. Help me
- 9 understand. If you're going to reduce the number of
- 10 parking spaces, what's the reason?
- MR. FOLK: I didn't say I reduced
- 12 parking spaces. I said reduce the size of the
- 13 parking lot.
- MR. NOGUEROL: Okay. Reduce the size 14
- of the parking lot. So is it fair to say that less
- 16 cars can -- who are going to park in the future than
- currently can park in the size of the lot now? 17
- MR. FOLK: No, better use of the 18
- 19 facility.
- MR. NOGUEROL: Better use. What's the 20
- 21 reason behind widening the road?
- MR. FOLK: The township asked us to 22
- 23 widen the road.
- MR. NOGUEROL: Based on what? 24
- MR. FOLK: The township has a right to 25

In Re: Al Falah Center Page 61 Page 63 1 ask us for frontage improvements. 1 much. MR. NOGUEROL: Can anyone on the MR. BOGART: Yes, sir. 3 township answer that question? 3 MR. MALLELA: Hi. I'm Shiv Mallela. MR. COLLINS: The township engineer can MR. COLLINS: Sir, please raise your 5 answer the question. 5 right hand. Do you swear or affirm to tell the MR. BOGART: The township requests all 6 truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so 7 applicants for development to contribute toward 7 help you God? 8 frontage improvements. That particular section of MR. MALLELA: I do. 9 the Mountainview Road, I don't need to -- I probably MR. COLLINS: Spell your last name. 9 10 don't need to say to you is in pretty pitiful shape. MR. MALLELA: First name S-H-I-V. Last 10 11 So we would ask the applicant to pay their fair 11 name M-A-L-L-E-L-A. The address is 902 Papen Road I 12 share improvement to that road. 12 want to call up one question the gentleman asked. 13 MR. NOGUEROL: So you want to widen the 13 You said you came up with the number 14 one lane from 20 feet to 25 feet? 14 500 based on seats, but you said that mats. There MR. BOGART: I'm not sure about the 25, 15 15 are no seats. So how do you translate from mats to 16 but, traditionally, if you view the portion of 16 seats? 17 Mountaintop from Crim Road in the other direction, MR. FOLK: I said 500 persons. 17 18 it would be to that same standard. I think it's 22 MR. MALLELA: Based on what? 18 19 feet total. MR. FOLK: The architect's --19 20 MR. NOGUEROL: Okay. I'm sorry. 20 MR. MALLELA: Architect not tell you 21 Again, you're going to defer the question about the 21 how many people are going to show up. 22 height of the proposed mosque. We don't know what MR. FOLK: There's a fire code that 22 23 it is. 23 allows a certain amount of capacity in the building. MR. FOLK: I'll defer that to the MR. MALLELA: What was the capacity 24 24 25 architect. 25 before? Page 62 MR. NOGUEROL: Do we know the current MR. FOLK: Before? 1 2 height of the Redwood Inn? 2 MR. MALLELA: Before at the Redwood

- MR. FOLK: Again, I'll defer that to 3
- 4 the architect.
- MR. NOGUEROL: Do you know if there's
- 6 any -- you talked about some additional lighting.
- 7 You're putting up the light fixtures at 14 and 20
- 8 feet. How many current light fixtures are in the
- parking lot in the Redwood Inn now?
- MR. FOLK: Offhand, I can't answer 10
- 11 that.
- MR. NOGUEROL: You've been to the 12
- 13 property?
- MR. FOLK: Yes, many times. 14
- MR. NOGUEROL: But you don't know? 15
- MR. COLLINS: Mr. Folk, if you can 16
- 17 answer that question by looking at your plans, you
- 18 must look at your plans and take the time to count
- 19 them.
- MR. FOLK: Sure. For the record, I'll 20
- 21 say there's a handful, half a dozen, five or six.
- MR. NOGUEROL: Five or six. Are the 22
- 23 lights active right now?
- MR. FOLK: I don't know that. 24
- 25 MR. NOGUEROL: Okay. Thank you very

- з Inn.
- MR. FOLK: I will defer that to the
- 5 architect. The existing facility, what's the
- 6 capacity for that? Is that your question?
- MR. MALLELA: Yeah.
- MR. FOLK: I will defer that to the 8
- architect.
- MR. MALLELA: Also, do you know what 10
- 11 the area is that would constitute the prayer area.
- 12 MR. FOLK: Again, I'll defer to the
- 13 architect.
- MR. MALLELA: Okay. Another question.
- 15 Since you visited the property, do you know that
- 16 it's heavily wooded, a lot of trees on the street?
- 17 For instance, from Mountaintop, it's
- 18 hard to see the building. Do you know what
- percentage of the lot right now is wooded?
- MR. FOLK: My opinion, I would consider
- 21 the lot to be 25 percent wooded.
- MR. MALLELA: Okay.
- MR. FOLK: And that location of the 23
- 24 woods would be behind the building behind to the
- 25 east of the existing parking lot to the east of the

12 would be wooded?

16 going to take down any trees?

14 tree line and --

18 removed.

25 landscaping.

6 north.

8 left.

7

9

10

13

15

17

19

20

22

23

21 area.

2 here. This area is wooded.

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1 mean there must be some lights.

- 2 MR. FOLK: They're probably 25 feet on
- 3 the pole, pole mounted.
- 4 MR. MALLELA: Same size?
- 5 MR. FOLK: They're different. They're
- 6 cobra heads. They give off a light source. Our
- 7 fixtures are flat where the light source is hidden
- 8 up in the box of the unit. You won't see the light
- 9 source, but you'll feel the glow of the light on the 10 ground.
- MR. MALLELA: Now, are you going to be
- 12 putting lights -- the new lights you're going to be
- 13 put in, will they be closer to the property line
- 14 than they are right now?
- 15 MR. FOLK: No. There are lights much
- 16 closer to the property. In fact, there's several --
- 17 two lights, one here and one here that are on the
- 18 property line.
- MR. MALLELA: Okay. So that means, in
- 20 terms of lighting, it will be better. It won't be
- 21 worse you're saying?
- MR. FOLK: Yes. In my opinion, yes.
- MR. MALLELA: Also, are there any
- 24 security lights right now on the property? You said
- 25 you're going to have some security lights.

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MR. MALLELA: Also, would you know how

1 existing building and then around to the north in

MR. MALLELA: It's also wooded right

MR. MALLELA: Mountaintop is to the

MR. FOLK: Mountaintop is to the left.

11 proposal, after you're all done, what percentage

MR. FOLK: We are going to maintain the

MR. MALLELA: That means you're not

MR. FOLK: There will be some trees

MR. FOLK: From the area in this play

MR. MALLELA: But nothing in the front?

MR. FOLK: Nothing in the front. We'll

MR. MALLELA: What area?

24 enhance the vegetation in the front with

MR. MALLELA: So, now, with your

4 where Running Brook meets Mountaintop.

MR. FOLK: Running Brook is to the

- 2 many parking spots there are currently?
- 3 MR. FOLK: Currently, the site is
- 4 pretty much devoid of any space delineations. The
- 5 stripes are pretty much washed out. I couldn't tell
- 6 you exactly how many spaces there were at one time.
- 7 No. I don't know that.
- 8 MR. MALLELA: Since that structure has
- 9 existed there for many, many years, if you look at
- 10 the way the lights and all were set up there before,
- 11 with the changes you're proposing, would the
- 12 immediate neighbors feel any difference?
- MR. FOLK: As you say before, last time
- 14 I was at the Redwood Inn was probably for a wedding
- 15 in 1982, and I can't recall going by the Redwood Inn
- 16 at nighttime with the facility going on. So I'm
- 17 sorry. I can't really answer your question as to
- 18 what was -- you know, when it was up and running. I
- 19 haven't been there in a while.
- 20 But with our proposed lighting, it's
- 21 going to be not obtrusive, low level lighting.
- MR. MALLELA: For instance, you talked
- 23 about lighting to like 20-foot tall.
- 24 MR. FOLK: Correct.
- MR. MALLELA: What is it right now? I

- MR. FOLK: Our proposal is to provide
- 2 some security lighting, yes.
- 3 MR. MALLELA: It existed there for 60
- 4 years with no security lights, but you feel the
- 5 need?
- 6 MR. FOLK: I don't know what they have
- 7 for security lights. They may have security lights.
- 8 I don't know.
- 9 MR. MALLELA: Okay. So you don't know
- 10 what there is right now?
- 11 MR. FOLK: Not today. No, I don't.
- MR. MALLELA: So when you go there,
- 13 it's not evident to you whether or not there are
- 14 lights over there? I mean you've gone there many
- 15 times.
- MR. FOLK: I don't go there at night.
- 17 MR. MALLELA: Okay. Then I'm going to
- 8 come to another question. As far as the play area
- 19 and all that's concerned, do you know how many
- 20 children are supposed to be there in the daycare
- 21 center?
- MR. FOLK: Forty.
- MR. MALLELA: Forty. And that's 40
- 24 ever, only 40. Never more than 40 or is it 40 in
- 25 the beginning?

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2 proposal is for 40.

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1 few comments, a few questions and a few suggestions

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- 2 for the board for the Alfalah Center.
- My question to the professional who
- prepared the floor plan for this facility, my first
- 5 question to you why are you reducing the parking
- 7 I apologize if I repeat the question.
- MR. FOLK: We don't need the larger 8
- 9 size.
- MR. MOSTAFA: So you're trying to 10
- 11 accommodate what the township requirements or is it
- 12 just your recommendation when you saying I'm going
- 13 to do better use of facility?
- MR. FOLK: It's what the facility --14
- 15 MR. MOSTAFA: Is that your
- 16 professional -- like you came with assessment. You
- 17 professionally assessed it, say I need a smaller
- parking lot so I can better use the facility?
- MR. FOLK: No. The facility -- it
- 20 defines parking spaces, and that's what we worked
- 21 towards. We don't need any more spaces than were
- 22 shown. So we can rearrange the parking out there to
- 23 be more efficient, and by doing that, we were able
- 24 to reduce the size of the existing parking lot.
 - MR. MOSTAFA: So you're being more

- 1 efficient.
 - My second question, why are you
- 3 installing the storm sensor in the facility? Was
- 4 that there before?
- MR. FOLK: Stormceptor. 5
- MR. MOSTAFA: Stormceptor. I'm sorry. 6
- MR. FOLK: That's part of water 7
- 8 enhancement for the site, and it's just good
- engineering practices to better the site when you
- 10 can.
- MR, MOSTAFA: Okay. So what I'm 11
- 12 getting out of this that you also including the
- 13 fence on the back, right? That was not originally
- 14 there or currently not there?
- MR. FOLK: Correct. 15
- MR. MOSTAFA: Correct? 16
- MR. FOLK: Yes. 17
- MR. MOSTAFA: So what I get out of 18
- 19 this, you're trying to improve the facility. You're
- 20 trying to do the better efficiency to the use of the
- 21 facility?
- 22 MR. FOLK: Have you seen the facility?
- MR. MOSTAFA: I have seen the facility. 23
- 24 MR. FOLK: It's in pretty bad shape.
- MR. MOSTAFA: So you're coming in today 25

- MR. FOLK: I can't answer that. 10
- MR. MALLELA: Let me ask another 11
- 12 question. What will be the hours of operation of

MR. FOLK: I can't answer that. The

MR. MALLELA: I've been here long

4 enough in this area, and I've seen the temple on

5 202. Proposal is made today. A year later you come 6 down and try to sue the township, and I've seen 7 things like that, and that's why I always ask the

proposal for right now meaning it could be more

13 the daycare center?

9 later?

- MR. FOLK: I will defer that to an 14
- 15 expert witness tonight.
- MR. MALLELA: Okay. Because you made a
- 17 statement the basketball court and all that, the
- 18 noise would be like backyard noise, but, basically,
- 19 we're looking at noise to the immediate neighbors
- 20 all day of children next door, and you equate that
- 21 to a backyard noise like 40 kids. I don't know what
- 22 kind of backyard you have. Forty kids.
- 23 I found you to be very dismissive. I
- 24 think you should respect when people ask questions.
- 25 You can't be so dismissive saying it's like a

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1 backyard noise.

- MR. FOLK: I did not say children would
- 3 be there all day.
- MR. MALLELA: They're going to be there
- all day on weekdays, and you said it's like a
- 6 backyard noise. That's all I have. Thank you.
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: I can only ask you
- 8 that, just for purposes, we ask you to refrain from
- applauding after comments. I'm sorry. Even though
- 10 you agree with him, you can come up and agree with
- 11 him. However, we ask you to refrain from comments
- 12 or shouting out, applauding, et cetera. So please
- 13 cooperate with that.
- Sir, if you'd like to be next. 14
- MR. MOSTAFA: My name is Hany Mostafa. 15
- 16 First name is H-A-N-Y and the last name is
- 17 M-O-S-T-A-F-A.
- MR. COLLINS: Sir, please raise your 18
- 19 right hand. Do you swear or affirm to tell the
- 20 truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so
- 21 help you God?
- 22 MR. MOSTAFA: I do.
- MR. COLLINS: What was your address? 23
- MR. MOSTAFA: My address is 3605 Riddle 24
- 25 Court in Bridgewater and Milltown Road. I have a

- 1 proposing to the township you are going to do the
- 2 improvement to the facility?
- 3 MR. FOLK: Yes.
- 4 MR. MOSTAFA: Not doing something bad
- 5 or harm to it?
- 6 MR. FOLK: Correct.
- 7 MR. MOSTAFA: Because I have heard
- 8 comments -- I apologize. I'm just a normal, regular
- 9 person. I have heard comments about the drainage
- 10 and what's happening in there.
- And how many storms have we had since
- 12 we submitted the application? How many rainstorms?
- 13 How many snowstorms? How many? Did anything happen
- 14 where PSE&G complained about the facility that
- 15 somebody has to take care of that? Did that
- 16 facility cause a burden on the township to be in
- 17 that shape?
- 18 Because I'm not clear about the message
- 19 right now. What I understand that this facility was
- 20 a Redwood Inn, and I think you mentioned you
- 21 attended a wedding 1982?
- MR. FOLK: Correct.
- MR. MOSTAFA: If I'm an investor, I'm
- 24 investing in a facility like this, I'm at least
- 25 expecting a wedding, bachelor party or graduation or

- 1 So, Mr. Folk, I guess what I'm getting from you,
- 2 from your proposal today is that you're trying to
- 3 accommodate the requirements of the township. You
- 4 you're trying to add some improvements to the
- 5 facility that is currently in a very bad shape. Is
- 6 that correct?
- 7 MR. FOLK: Yes, that's correct.
- 8 MR. MOSTAFA: Have you refused any
- 9 request that came from the township that asked you
- 10 we need you to do this and you refused based on your
- 11 professional opinion?
- MR. FOLK: Not that I can remember.
- MR. MOSTAFA: So nothing that came from
- 14 the township. So you are in compliance or you are
- 15 planning to be in compliance with all the rules and
- 16 regulations of the township and the city of
- 17 Bridgewater?
- 18 MR. FOLK: That's correct.
- MR. MOSTAFA: Okay. I have no further
- 20 questions, but as I mentioned earlier, it's just
- 21 more as a suggestion to the township as a normal
- 22 person, a regular individual. What I'm looking for,
- 23 I am looking for a list of items that the township
- 24 believes that using this facility as a worship place
- 25 that will hurt the township and the specific items,

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- 1 something every single week, because I have heard
- 2 attorneys talking about disturbance.
- 3 How can you measure disturbance? I
- 4 can't measure disturbance in my own house with my
- 5 two kids. I can be faking and give you a number,
- 6 but you're talking about a facility that holds a
- 7 wedding every single week. Can you estimate how
- 8 many people are coming to the wedding?
- 9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's not every day.
- 10 MR. COLLINS: Sir, I'm going to just
- 11 now ask you to stay focused on questions only for
- 12 Mr. Folk. This is not the time to give testimony.
- 13 There will be other nights when all the witnesses
- 14 are through for the applicant where there will be
- 15 testimony.
- So it's hard sometimes to distinguish a
- 17 statement from a question, and you can use
- 18 statements to cross-examine a witness to then ask a
- 19 question.
- 20 MR. MOSTAFA: I apologize.
- 21 MR. COLLINS: But focus as the
- 22 attorneys did on asking Mr. Folk questions and that
- 23 also will help reduce the dialogue. There should be
- 24 no dialogue by you with others.
- MR. MOSTAFA: I apologize. Thank you.

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- 1 one, two, three, and the rule of the Alfalah Center
- 2 will be to address it professionally and come to you
- 3 with solutions.
- 4 What we're trying to do in here --
- 5 that's not testimony. This is just a message from a
- 6 resident of Bridgewater. What we're trying to do
- 7 here is use the facility for worship place is to
- 8 respect the neighbors as well.
- 9 MR. COLLINS: Sir, that is now
- 10 testimony.
- 11 MR. MOSTAFA: That's now testimony.
- 12 MR. COLLINS: Come back.
- 13 MR, MOSTAFA: I'm trying.
- MR. COLLINS: I understand, and we give
- 15 a little leeway, but do come back when it's time for
- 16 testimony.
- 17 MR. MOSTAFA: I apologize. Thank you
- 18 very much. I have no further questions. Thank you.
- MS. TUBMAN: Mr. Chairman, before we
- 20 move to the next witness, this one came on so fast,
- 21 for clarification, I'd like to ask one or two
- 22 questions of Mr. Folk.
- You were asked the number of persons
- 24 upon whom you based your parking. Where did you get
- 25 that number?

2 people.

6

7

10

number?

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- 1 thing we see is in front of the mosque itself as far
 - 2 as the road being wider. My question is how far is
- 3 this going to be taken because I heard mention
 - 4 before about Crim Road?
 - So I want to know how far any road
 - 6 repair or widening is going to take place and
 - possibly you can answer that or the planning board?
 - MR. FOLK: I can answer it. For our
 - frontage, sir, our property frontage is proposed
 - 10 from the southerly side to the northerly side of the
 - 11 property. From there on, I can't answer you.
 - MR. HARKINS: Okay. So am I to assume
 - 13 that the rest of Mountaintop from that part of his
 - 14 property line to Crim Road is going to remain the
 - 15 same?
- MR. BOGART: There are currently no 16
- 17 plans for that portion of Mountaintop Road. We
- 18 acknowledge the fact that there is work that needs
- 19 to be done, but in the current capital funding,
- 20 there is no funding for that road.
- MR. HARKINS: Okay. Thank you. 21
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Next. Yes, sir. Come 22
- 23 on.
- 24 MR. COLLINS: Sir, you're still sworn,
- 25 but please state your name again.

- 9 you?
- MR. FOLK: Yes. MS. TUBMAN: That is in the 11
- 12 application?
- MR. FOLK: That's correct. 13
- 14 MS. TUBMAN: Did you prepare the
- 15 activity charts yourself?
- 16 MR. FOLK: No, I did not.
- MS. TUBMAN: We will have a witness to 17

MR. FOLK: I got that from the Alfalah

MS. TUBMAN: And you were asked the 4 number of daycare students. Where did you get that

MR. FOLK: From the Alfalah people.

MS. TUBMAN: And did you get it from an 8 activity chart that was prepared and provided to

- 18 explain these numbers to the best that can be done,
- 19 but Mr. Folk did his design based on occupancy and
- 20 use numbers that were provided to him.
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Okay. Give me 30 21
- 22 seconds here. What we'd like to do is the time is
- 8:50. Some of us have been sitting here since 6:30. 23
- 24 We'd like to take a brief 10-minute break. We'll
- 25 resume at 9 o'clock. It's 8:50. We will resume at

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- 1 9 o'clock.
- (Recess taken.) 2
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Thank you for your 3
- 4 cooperation. Just so you understand the ground
- 5 rules one more time, your questions should be
- 6 addressed to the witness. General comments will be
- 7 later on at this hearing. So that will happen at a
- 8 later date where you'll have an opportunity to say
- 9 your general comments and address any other concern
- 10 that you have.
- Next person to address -- yes, sir. 11
- 12 Come down, get sworn in and then state and spell
- 13 your name.
- MR. COLLINS: Sir, please raise your
- 15 right, and do you swear or affirm to tell the truth,
- 16 the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help
- 17 you God.
- 18 MR. HARKINS: I do.
- MR. COLLINS: Spell your name and 19
- 20 address.
- MR. HARKINS: My name is Bruce Harkins, 21
- 22 H-A-R-K-I-N-S, and the address is 1501 Mountaintop
- 23 Road, and my question is pretty simple.
- It has to do, of course, with the
- 25 traffic pattern, and I'm wondering like the only

- MR. MALLELA: Shiv Mallela, 902 Papen 1
- 2 Road.
- Sir, I have a question for you based on
- 4 your answers to the previous gentleman. You said
- again you're making all these improvements to the
- 6 lot. Are you making because you want to do it for
- 7 the township or are you doing it because you need to
- do them to get your permits?
- MR. FOLK: I think the answer to both 9
- 10 of those is yes.
- MR. MALLELA: You want to do it? You
- 12 mean out of the goodness of your heart you want to
- 13 make improvements to properties in the township?
- MR. FOLK: No. Yeah. You can't --14
- MR. MALLELA: Yes. 15
- MR. FOLK: You can't occupy the
- 17 building without making certain improvements that
- 18 meet the statutes and codes of the state.
- MR. MALLELA: Right. But your main 19
- 20 interest is to occupy the building, right?
- MR. FOLK: Of course. 21
- MR. MALLELA: Of course. Oh, so it 22
- 23 doesn't seem -- for you to make statements like
- 24 you're doing it for the township, that would not be
- 25 correct, would it, meaning your motive is to be able

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- 1 to occupy the building?
- Your motive is not to do things for the
- 3 township. I don't think you're in the business to
- 4 do things for the township.
- MR. FOLK: My motive is to comply with
- 6 the ordinance and the rules.
- MR. MALLELA: Right. That is the good
- 8 thing, but I'm saying your goal is to occupy the
- 9 building. I want to make clear, when questions are
- 10 asked of you as to what you're doing, you're trying
- 11 to do things for the township, that is not really
- 12 doing it for the township. You're doing it for
- 13 yourself.
- Okay. The second question I have is 14
- 15 another question which you asked or maybe it was a
- 16 statement saying that here was this building not
- 17 being used, and so, therefore, you know, somehow
- 18 what is being done is a good thing that the building
- 19 or things is being fixed up.
- So the question -- since you answered 20
- 21 the question, another question is in the township
- 22 are there other locations or facilities which would
- 23 be equally good or better than this in the township
- that you know of? 24
- MS. TUBMAN: That's not an appropriate 25

- MR. COLLINS: Do you swear or affirm to
 - 2 tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the

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- 3 truth so help you God?
- MS. HOZENY: I do. 4
- MR. COLLINS: Please state your name 5
- and address. Spell your last name.
- MS. HOZENY: My name Fran Hozeny. It's
- spelled H-O-Z, as in zebra, E-N-Y. I live on Top 8
- Place. 9
- I have another question as to the 10
- 11 widening of the road. As I understand it, the
- widening will only take place in the front of the
- 13 property of the proposed mosque?
- MR. FOLK: Correct. 14
- MS. HOZENY: You say the road is in bad 15
- 16 shape. We live there. We know it's in bad shape.
- What is the purpose of improving just 17
- 18 that small portion of the road if the rest of the
- 19 road isn't going to be improved because there are no
- 20 funds?
- 21 And you say that the Alfalah group has
- 22 to pay their fair share. What is their fair share
- 23 and what is the taxpayer's fair share?
- MS. TUBMAN: The fair share question
- 25 should be directed to Mr. Bogart, the township

- 1 engineer, except that this applicant is -- under 2 Municipal Land Use Law may be required to widen
- 3 along its frontage. It has to make, under the Land
- 4 Use Law, a pro rata share of -- contribute a pro
- 5 rata share of the cost of necessary improvements
- 6 occasioned by this development, and that would be a
- 7 question of our traffic engineer who will be here on
- a subsequent evening.
- MS. HOZENY: Okay. Well, then may I
- 10 ask one other question? And perhaps that should
- 11 also be addressed to the traffic engineer.
- If there's no parking allowed on the 12
- 13 road, then why widen it?
- MS. TUBMAN: Just because the township 14
- 15 may require us to widen it and has made that
- 16 request.
- MS. HOZENY: Okay. One other question 17
- 18 that came to mind, I couldn't remember if it was the
- 19 daycare center that is open to the public or was it
- 20 the activities center that was open to the public?
- MS. TUBMAN: That is the daycare 21
- 22 center.
- MS. HOZENY: Will there be a charge for 23
- 24 the outside people?
- MS. TUBMAN: Not a question for me or 25

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1 question. This is a use that is conditionally

- 2 permitted on this site, and we meet those
- 3 conditions.
- MR. MALLELA: Yeah. The fact is you're
- 5 not doing it --
- MR. COLLINS: Sir, that was an
- objection by the attorney for the applicant.
- MR. MALLELA: Okay. I'm sorry. I 8
- didn't know it was an objection. 9
- MR. COLLINS: The objection is this is 10
- 11 correct that the focus is on this application and
- 12 you should focus your questions on this application.
- MR. MALLELA: Okay. So the thing --
- 14 can I ask another question? Is there something 15 specific about -- this use is permitted. I
- 16 understand.
- Is there something specific to this 17
- 18 property that makes it an ideal location for the
- use? Is that also --1.9
- MS. TUBMAN: That's also an 20
- 21 inappropriate question to which I object.
- MR. MALLELA: I'm done. Thank you. 22
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Would anyone else in 23
- 24 the audience like to come up and cross-examine the
- 25 witness? Yes.

- 1 for this witness.
- 2 MS. HOZENY: Okay. I will refer it to
- 3 someone else that can answer that question at
- 4 another time. Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Thank you. Any other
- 6 questions of this witness? Yes, sir.
- 7 MR. COLLINS: Do you swear or affirm to
- 8 tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the
- 9 truth so help you God?
- 10 MR. FALLONE: I do.
- MR. COLLINS: Please state your name,
- 12 address and spell your last name.
- 13 MR. FALLONE: John Fallone,
- 14 F-A-L-L-O-N-E. I'm at Gateshead Drive in
- 15 Bridgewater.
- 16 As I'm looking at the parking lot, the
- 17 cars are all facing -- I guess that's east/west or
- 18 north/south.
- 19 MR. FOLK: North/south.
- 20 MR. FALLONE: North/south. As it is
- 21 now, we went to lots of functions there, but the
- 22 parking lot was facing the other way.
- So I guess my question is -- and I
- 24 don't live in one of the houses there, but if I did,
- 25 I'd have concern about all the headlights in my

- 1 They did orientate 90 degrees different
- 2 direction in the center part of the lots and in this
- 3 location, but there was -- cars could park along
- 4 here if they wanted to and point their headlights
- 5 along the property in this regard. So it is to
- 6 enhance that aspect of mitigating the headlights by
- 7 further distance from the property line, and a
- 8 landscape architect will testify to the buffering
- 9 provided.
- 10 MR. MOENCH: Is it possible,
- 11 nonetheless, to configure the parking lot in such a
- 12 way that the cars are aligned in the alternate
- 13 direction left to right across the map as opposed to
- 14 on an angle but up or down?
- MR. FOLK: That wouldn't make good
- 16 engineering practice to do that.
- 17 MR. MOENCH: Why not?
- 18 MR. FOLK: It's completely inefficient.
- 19 It would require much more parking -- asphalt.
- MR. MOENCH: You couldn't do it in the
- 21 same parking lot asphalt area? You'd have to
- 22 broaden the area of the parking lot to do that?
- MR. FOLK: You could, but you'd end up
- 24 with less landscaping within the parking lot, and
- 25 you'd have a bigger ocean of asphalt than what you

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- 1 backyard. Is there any buffering there? You've got 1 would want to see.
 - MR. MOENCH: What's the area in between
 - 3 those parking lines in between the two rows of
 - 4 parking? What is that?
 - 5 MR. FOLK: That's a buffer strip of
 - 6 planted grass and plantings.
 - 7 MR. MOENCH: What purpose does that
 - 8 serve? I mean a narrow strip of grass in the
 - 9 parking lot, what's the utility from a design
 - 10 engineer standpoint to do that?
 - 11 MR. FOLK: What's the sense of putting
 - 12 asphalt there?
 - 13 MR. MOENCH: It's just to break up
 - 14 the --
 - 15 MR. FOLK: Minimize the amount of
 - 16 impervious coverage, you know, increase the
 - 17 groundwater seepage abilities on the site. You want
 - 18 to do what you can to provide a better enhanced
 - 19 stormwater management plan for the property.
 - 20 MR. MOENCH: Okay. Thank you.
 - 21 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Any other questions of
 - 22 this witness? Yes, sir.
 - 23 MR. COLLINS: Sir, do you swear or
 - 24 affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and
 - 25 nothing but the truth so help you God?

.

2 two rows of lights that are pointing at the

- 3 residents.
- 4 MR. FOLK: Yes. We have a landscape
- 5° architect that can testify to the buffering.
- 6 MR. FALLONE: Maybe a solid fence.
- 7 That might block those people, might help.
- 8 MR. FOLK: Okay.
- 9 MR. FALLONE: Okay. Thanks.
- 10 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: We have one other
- 11 question from the board.
- MR. MOENCH: Sir, just as a follow-up
- 13 to that question, when you decided to orient the
- 14 parking spaces in that direction, I guess what was
- 15 the consideration or is it possible -- I don't know
- 16 if it's better or worse.
- 17 I'm asking a question about possibility
- 18 of orienting the parking in a different direction if
- 19 it's going to have less impact on headlights to the
- 20 residence.
- MR. FOLK: I don't believe the impact
- 22 of the lights are going to be an issue. We're
- 23 moving the parking lot approximately 50 feet further 24 away from where it is on the property line. People
- 25 could park along that property line in the past.

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- MR. JAKWAY: Yes.
- MR. COLLINS: Please state your name,
- 3 address and spell your last name.
- MR. JAKWAY: Chris Jakway spelled
- 5 J-A-K-W-A-Y. I live at 958 Sunset Ridge.
- Going to the use of the site, I've
- 7 heard talking about, obviously, the mosque and the
- 8 40 children daycare, but through an open public
- 9 records request act I obtained the traffic report.
- 10 It's talking about 235 student school. Is that
- 11 still in the plans?
- MS. TUBMAN: That was removed. Is this
- 13 working? That was removed without prejudice after
- 14 the first appearance because of the confusion that
- 15 it caused.
- There may in the future be an annulment 16
- 17 school proposed, but it is not part of this
- 18 application.
- MR. JAKWAY: Will that be a separate 19
- 20 application with the planning board?
- MS. TUBMAN: It would be a separate 21
- application.
- MR. JAKWAY: Most of my questions are
- 24 related to traffic. Should I hold them until next
- 25 time?

- MR, COLLINS: That's a different
- 2 subject. That's between you and the reporter.
- 3 That's a little hard for us to guaranty, but that's
- 4 between you and him, but for purposes of this
- 5 record, you cannot be anonymous. You are a person,
- 6 and your person's name will be in this record, and
- 7 we must consider that and know that and the public
- 8 must know that. Okay.
- MR, LU: Okay. 9
- MR. COLLINS: Thank you. 10
- MR. LU: My question is has this plan 11
- 12 design been done anywhere else and has been proven
- 13 not to interfere with the neighbors' existing
- 14 lifestyle?
- MR. FOLK: I'm not really quite clear 15
- 16 what the question, but I'll answer it as generic as
- 17 every site is different. You can't clone this site
- 18 and put it someplace else and test it first. So if
- that answers your question, I'm not sure, but this
- 20 is -- every project is different and unique.
- MR. LU: Have you done any kind of 21
- 22 design of mosque in the State of New Jersey?
- MR. FOLK: No, sir. 23
- MR. LU: So there's no proof, prior
- 25 proof this will not interfere with the life of your

- MS. TUBMAN: We will have a traffic 2 engineer, not necessarily at the next hearing.
- MR. JAKWAY: Relating to the civil, the
- 4 five-foot widening on Mountaintop Road, is that 5 included in net impervious coverage?
- MR. FOLK: No. That's not on our
- 7 property.
- MR. JAKWAY: I'm going to hold the rest
- 9 of the questions until next time.
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Thank you. Yes, sir. 10
- MR. COLLINS: Sir, do you swear or 11
- 12 affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and
- 13 nothing but the truth so help you God?
- 14 MR. LU: I do.
- MR. COLLINS: Please state your name 15
- 16 and address and spell your last name.
- MR. LU: William Lu, Bridgewater. This 17
- 18 is anonymous. My question is has this design --
- MR. COLLINS: I didn't understand that.
- 20 I don't think you're remaining anonymous because you
- 21 gave your name, but you can't testify anonymously.
- 22 So I want to make sure I understand. You did give
- 23 us your correct name?
- MR. LU: I did give you correct name.
- 25 I don't want any reporter.

- 1 neighbor?
- MS. TUBMAN: I'm sorry. I don't intend
- 3 to appear rude, but that's not a question for a
- 4 civil engineer. You can question him about the
- design, not the building and not the use.
- MR. LU: Okay. And my next question is
- 7 for civil engineer. In your experience designing
- 8 this kind of a plan in this kind of neighborhood,
- has it affected the value of the house in the
- 10 neighborhood?
- MS. TUBMAN: Civil engineer cannot
- 12 answer that question.
- MR. LU: Who in your team can answer 13
- 14 the question?
- MS. TUBMAN: I don't intend to bring an 15
- 16 appraiser. The question is really is the use
- permitted on this property in this zone and it is. 17
- MR, LU: The zoning law -- the zoning 18
- 19 law has changed, right?
- MS. TUBMAN: The ordinance was changed 20
- 21 in 2011, and the court has said the changed
- 22 ordinance cannot be applied to this application.
- MR. LU: Are we in appeals process? 23
- MR. COLLINS: Sir, these are not 24
- 25 questions for the witness, and so you're going to

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- 1 have to focus yourself on Mr. Folk.
- MR. LU: Okay. 2
- MR. COLLINS: Do you have any further 3
- questions for Mr. Folk?
- MR. LU: No.
- MR. COLLINS: Okay. Thank you. 6
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Any other questions 7
- 8 for Mr. Folk? Any other questions for this witness?
- MR. FRANCO: I had a question. Mr.
- 10 Folk, in regard to the island in the middle of the
- 11 parking lot, I know you mentioned about creating
- 12 more nonimpervious or landscaped areas. Couldn't
- 13 that be brought down so you've got head-to-head
- 14 parking and pull it further away from the property
- 15 line?
- MR. FOLK: Yes, you can do that. 16
- MR. FRANCÓ: Is that something you 17
- would entertain? 18
- MR. FOLK: We'll take a look at that. 19
- 20 Sure.
- MR. FRANCO: Thank you. 21
- MR. MOENCH: I'm sorry. I have one 22
- 23 additional question for you, follow-up. Have you
- 24 designed any houses of worship in your experience of
- 25 25 years as a civil engineer?

- 1 very far from there is future growth of the mosque.
- 2 If that in some way can be determined how much more
- 3 growth that is allowed to take place, because as it
- 4 is now, it's set in a certain way. Are those
- parameters -- can they change over time or is this
- pretty much how it is going to be set, this is how
- it would stay?

11

- MS. TUBMAN: I will try to answer that
- 9 by asking questions of Mr. Folk except on matters of
- 10 law. I'm not supposed to testify. MS. TAMMARA: Okay.
- MS. TUBMAN: What is the land 12
- 13 requirement per square foot of building?
- MR. FOLK: It's 20 square feet of 14
- 15 land -- of site area per square feet of floor area.
- 16 We currently have 291,340 square feet of land area
- with a total of 14,567 square feet of building
- 18 proposed. That 14,567 square feet of building area
- 19 requires 291,340 square feet of land area. We have
- 20 a total of 314,273 square feet of land area. So the
- 21 amount of additional square footage per building is
- 22 very small.
- MS. TAMMARA: Okay. Thank you. 23
- 24 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Thank you. Anyone
- 25 else?

If counsel would like to bring your

- 2 next witness?
- MS. TUBMAN: Yes, I would like to ask 3
- 4 Ralph Finelli who is our architect to testify.
- Mr. Finelli has a colored board because
- it is appropriate to ask the architect about
- building materials and colors. We have only one.
- We do not have a color slide and will not have a
- color slide, but this is available for the board to
- 10 look at and for the public to look at.
- We will leave it here at the conclusion 11
- 12 of this hearing. People can look at it, and it will
- 13 be here at subsequent hearings.
- MR. COLLINS: Mr. Finelli, please come 14
- 15 to the mike and be sworn. Please raise your right
- 16 hand. Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth, the
- whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you 17
- 18
- MR. FINELLI: I do. 19
- MR. COLLINS: Please state your name 20
- 21 and spell your last name and give us an address.
- MR. FINELLI: Ralph Finelli, F, as in 22
- 23 Frank, I-N-E-L-L-I. My address is P.O. Box 144,
- Sergeantsville, New Jersey. 24
- 25 MR. COLLINS: Please go ahead.

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MR. FOLK: No. 1

- MR. MOENCH: Thank you. 2
- CHAIRMAN RUSAK: Yes. Is there someone 3
- 4 else with a hand? I'm sorry. I apologize. Yes,
- please come forward.
- Is there anyone else after this person
- 7 would want to speak? If you come and sit in the
- 8 front row, we maybe can move it along and go
- forward. So if there's a next question, come up and
- 10 sit in these rows that are reserved, and then we can
- 11 entertain you to go right to the microphone. Thank
- 12 you.
- MS. TAMMARA: Hi. My name is Darlene 13
- 14 Tammara, and Tamara is T-A-M-M-A-R-A. I'm on Mount
- Vernon Road. 15
- MR. COLLINS: Please raise your right 16
- 17 hand. Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth, the
- 18 whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you
- God? 19
- MS. TAMMARA: I do. 20
- MR. COLLINS: Thank you. 21
- MS. TAMMARA: My question is the 22
- 23 present plans as you have them are in one way in
- 24 terms of how many people are allowed to park, how
- 25 many attendants. My concern because I don't live

1

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- MR. FINELLI: Qualifications.
- 2
- MS. TUBMAN: Qualifications. 3
- MR. FINELLI: Qualifications. I've

MS. TUBMAN: You can go ahead.

- 5 been licensed since 1984. I have appeared before
- 6 this very board, actually, my first board back in
- 1987, and I have designed perhaps a dozen houses of
- worship throughout New Jersey. I maintain my
- license in Pennsylvania full-time and have also
- worked in New York and various other states. 10
- MS. TUBMAN: Does the board --11
- MR. COLLINS: The board will recognize 12
- 13 and accept Mr. Finelli's qualifications as a
- registered architect. 14
- MS. TUBMAN: Before you start, would 15
- you mark your rendering Exhibit A-1 with today's
- 17 date?
- 18 MR. COLLINS: The colored rendering
- will be marked as A-1 with today's date.
- MS. TUBMAN: For the record, would you 20
- describe the exhibit? 21
- MR. FINELLI: The exhibit on the board 22
- 23 is a three-dimensional rendering of the proposed
- 24 improved building, and if Greg can go to the
- 25 electronic file up on the board in front of you, you

- 1 number that we've talked about a lot so far this
- 2 evening. The building as an assembly building,
- we're allowed or we're really demanded to look at
- that building in a number of different ways. This
- 6 building is an assembly hall. So based on this type
- 7 of assembly where we have fixed seats, as an
- architect, I'm required to calculate the maximum
- occupancy based on fixed seating. If a building is
- 10 to have tables and chairs, open floor plan, tables
- 11 and chairs as in Redwood Inn banquet hall was, I'm
- 12 demanded to calculate the occupancy based on tables
- 13 and chairs, and if it is still not fixed seats, but
- just chairs, so there's three different ratios.
- That's the way design professionals will maximize
- the occupancy of a building and that is the maximum
- by code that is allowed. 17
- In this case, we started with that, and
- we recognized, however, that our most intense use of
- 20 this building will be the prayer spaces. Those
- prayer spaces will not employ chairs and tables.
- 22 They will not employ benches or seats. They will
- employ prayer mats.
- So what we did was look at the prayer
- 25 spaces with that dimension, with the prayer mat

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- 1 can see the floor plan. You can look at this all
- 2 you like. I want to start with the floor plan and
- 3 explain the building to you first.
- So what you have in front of you on the
- 5 board is exactly the same plans that we have all
- 6 looked at and submitted before the board. It's a
- 7 little bit different orientation on the drawing than
- 8 you saw on the civil engineering plans.
- The bottom of that screen is parallel
- 10 with Mountaintop Road just to orient you. The
- 11 building footprint is exactly the same as the
- 12 building footprint of the current Redwood Inn, and
- 13 if I take you back to the beginning of this project,
- 14 we looked at Redwood Inn really the same way any
- user would want to look at it. What is the best and
- 16 most use that we can efficiently gain out of the
- 17 building as it stands today.
- So the building, as it stood today, as
- it stood at the time we started this is an assembly
- 20 hall. It is a building for banquets, dinners,
- 21 assembly gathers. We're talking back and forth
- 22 between zoning ordinances and construction codes.
- 23 So I will use the construction code to explain
- 24 assembly use and how that really affects our
- 25 occupancy which affects our parking. It has been a

- 1 dimension of four and a half feet -- two feet by
- 2 four and a half feet. So we looked at the occupancy
- 3 of the prayer spaces of nine square feet per mat.
- Now, what we have to figure into that
- space is, as you see here, we have fixed aisles to
- allow emergency escape, access to the primary
- function of the building to restrooms in and out of
- 8 the space and in a safe manner. So we have to
- figure those into the spaces. So, really, sort of
- 10 boiling this down to a short explanation, we look at
- 11 the prayer spaces at their most intense occupancy,
- 12 allow for fire access, safety access in and out of
- 13 the space, and that's how we get an occupancy limit.
- So with those numbers, with those 14
- 15 maximum use numbers, we worked with Alfalah and came
 - up with an occupant load. That occupant load then
- generates the parking requirement, and that's really
- where all those numbers come from. 18
 - Now, having said that, the primary
- 20 space you see in the center of that drawing, what is
- 21 currently the two big banquet halls will, after
- 22 improvements mostly to the outside of the building,
- 23 be the primary prayer space. Surrounding that
- 24 primary prayer space are multi-function spaces.
- 25 Like any other house of worship, we have days of the

19

1 week where we expect to be primarily a house of

- 2 worship. We have other days of the week where we're
- 3 open to the community. We have after school
- 4 programs. We have some before school programs. We
- 5 have community outreach. We anticipate the uses
- 6 that might be health screenings open to the
- 7 population at large.
- 8 So it is a community center as well as
- 9 a worship space. So those functions immediately
- 10 adjacent to the worship space are listed as
- 11 multi-purposes spaces. They can be used for any of
- 12 those various functions that are primarily intended
- 13 for the congregation but also open to the programs
- 14 that the congregation will be managing and running.
- To your left on the screen, the left
- 16 and lower left, what you see there are religious
- 17 education and some daycare uses. We do anticipate
- 18 going through the permit process with the State of
- 19 New Jersey to have a daycare facility within here,
- 20 within our facility, and during those same days
- 21 where the primary -- primary worship days are, there
- 22 will be religious education. Sometimes it will be
- 23 before the service, sometimes after, sometimes
- 24 concurrently just separated by age and gender.
- So those spaces that you see to the

- 1 occasionally, but, generally speaking, there would
- 2 be no preparation in this facility.
- 3 The little room off to the right is
- 4 currently an electric closet. It will maintain its
- 5 location and use as all the utilities coming into
- 6 the building.
- One of the features of the Redwood Inn
- 8 as it is today that's especially conducive to this
- 9 use -- to our proposed use is that it is all on one
- 10 level. Now, it's -- there is a portion of the
- 11 building to the left over here that is higher by
- 12 about four steps and then the rest of the facility,
- 13 all of this, but the building, if you're aware from
- 14 going by or looked on Mr. Folk's drawings, is
- 15 surrounded on almost two and a half sides with the
- 16 parking lot.
- 17 Pedestrian access to the building is
- 18 easily obtained almost universally around the
- 19 building. That's helpful for us, and we worked with
- 20 that as a design element. It's a house of worship.
- 21 It is open to the community. It is intended to be
- 22 open to the community. It is accessible from the
- 23 front, from the side, from both sides.
- We have various points of entries into
- 25 the building that helps us in a number of ways. It

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- 1 left are those education, summer daycare, summer2 multi-purpose, and you see a long corridor going
- 3 from top to bottom of the sheet really gaining
- 4 access in the front closest to our parking and drop
- 5 off and daycare, and in the back some secondary and
- 6 tertiary means of egress for the people in the
- 7 building. The main entrance to the building is
- 8 really right above where you see the drawing table.
- 9 It says proposed floor plan. If you can't, it's the
- 10 current main entrance to the building. It's exactly
- 11 the same space.
- One will enter our building. The only
- 13 time I ever used this is for my dog, but there is
- 14 the main entrance to the building. There will be a
- 15 lobby and then main access into the prayer space.
- 16 To the right and left of that lobby you'll see men's
- 17 rooms and lady's rooms along with additional
- 17 Tooms and rady 8 Tooms arong with additional
- 18 restrooms to handle the children and users of the multi-purpose spaces.
- There is also a kitchen space. A
- 21 kitchen space in this building for this purpose will
- 22 be really we would call a warming kitchen. There is
- 23 no anticipated food preparation. Any event that
- 24 would -- that would entail a large number of people
- 25 would be catered. There would be a potluck

- 1 helps us to have more than one barrier-free access
- 2 to the building. Our principal entrance to the
- 3 building comes in at the main level. We have to
- 4 ramp down, excuse me -- ramp down to the main
- 5 worship space or ramp up into the daycare area and
- 6 multi-purpose areas.
- 7 However, this whole eastern side of the
- 8 building is immediately adjacent to the parking lot.
- 9 It's going to be very easy for someone who's
- 10 challenged by walking up and down ramps or steps to
- 11 gain access to the worship space or the kitchen or
- parts of this building by simply walking under the
- 13 canopy and into the doors.
- 14 The other thing we do to reinforce that
- 15 same aspect of the building was we did surround the
- 16 building with a canopy. So right now we have a main
- 17 entrance in the front. You can see this colonnade
- 18 all the way around the building, and you'll see it
- 19 in the rendering when you get there. We do have an
- 20 entire covered canopy around the entire perimeter of
- 21 the building. That give us spaces for talking with
- 22 friends just before and after services. It gives us
- 23 a space to stand out of the rain. It gives us a
- convenient spot to go in and out of there whether we are there for worship service, daycare or some other

1 personal or social function. So we worked with that 2 as a design element.

Those really are the primary functions 4 that the building serves. It is really everything

5 that one would anticipate with a house of worship.

6 It is everything that we would anticipate with a

community center, a congregational center. It's at the same time serving the congregation and making

its best attempt to appeal to the neighborhood, and

we can come back and address any of the functions at

a later point.

I'm going to ask Greg to go to the next sheet which are measured drawings of the building

elevation from the exterior, and that will jibe with

the rendering that you see over here. Maybe you don't see it. It's behind it, but it will jibe with

the rendering. 17

18 Right now the building is a stucco

building. It's a one-story building. Portions of

this building were built as early as the 1930s.

There are portions built various decades really over the past 60 or 70 years. The primary banquet hall

space right now, again, is where the primary worship

24 space is proposed to be. It is currently a gable

25 roof approximately 20 to 22 feet tall to the ridge

1 mosque in the world. The minaret is in its original 2 iteration. It is the location from which a call to

3 prayer is made.

There is no plan to use that for

anything other than a visual icon. There is no

6 sound. There is no broadcast. There is nothing but

7 the visual connection to the original purpose of

8 that building. That call to prayer is a universal

call to prayer. That's what it's there for. That

10 building and those primary elements are meant to

11 convey what that mosque is supposed to say to its

congregation. 12

The colors, again, will be muted. It's 13

14 currently a sort of a cream color, tan colored

stucco. That will be the primary color of the

16 building. The dome will be painted gold and ceramic

tile band will be in the aquas, blues, greens range.

The colors we have reflected on the rendering are

actual manufacturer's paint colors. So we do have

some tie-ins to exactly what we can expect that

21 building to look like.

I think, while we're looking at the 22

23 canopy, the one thing I will also address that we

24 touched on it with Mr. Folk's testimony and that is

25 the security lighting. There will be no ground

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1 of that roof. Although, it is still a one-story 2 building. There are no mezzanines. There are no

3 second floors in this building. We will maintain

4 the one-story use of the structure.

We will work with a stucco finish. The

6 band that you see around that building at the canopy

7 height will be ceramic tiles. We will introduce

some color to this building. The other primary design features from the exterior are the minaret

10 and the dome. Both of these are -- both of these

11 are strong icons of Islamic architecture.

I'm an architect. I like to know what 12 13 a building is by looking at it. It's friendlier. I

14 like to be able to know what I'm looking at when I

15 look at a house of worship. I like to know that I'm

16 looking at a house of worship. I like to know I'm 17 looking at a particular style, and I like to know

what the building is trying to convey to me.

So what we have done is utilized a 19

20 couple of design elements that are -- that are

21 common in Islamic architecture. We would all be

22 familiar with the dome of the Taj Mahal. We would 23 all be familiar with the dome of the Rock Church.

24 We would all be familiar with the minaret that we

25 would see at either of those buildings or almost any

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1 mounted lighting that is flashing on this building.

2 There is none of that proposed.

However, under that canopy, that canopy

4 is lighted for those times of day either before 5 sunrise or after sunset where we need safety

6 lighting. We need to be able to see where we're

going. There are a number of light fixtures,

8 recessed ceiling light fixtures what we would

9 normally call high hats. I'm sure you have them in 10 your home or familiar with them right here in this

11 room. Those are spaced around the canopy to provide

12 lighting to the building.

At those points of entrance to the

14 building, there are approximately 10 of those

15 fixtures that will remain on as part of the facility

16 lighting. They will be controlled with the same

time clock that the security lighting is controlled, 17 and I think that's really about it for the building.

The next slide is really just the other 19

20 two elevations. The building, the main canopy --

21 now, the building -- I mentioned the building has

22 been added onto and built over a number of times 23 over the past 60 or 70 years. It really is a

24 hodgepodge of different elevations. The largest,

25 tallest structure is a gable roof. The portion of

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- 1 the building that we're showing as the daycare
- 2 center in the floor plan is a also gable roof. It's
- 3 a wood frame structure with a gable roof.
- We are going to even out all of those.
- 5 We're going to conceal a lot of those
- 6 inconsistencies by constructing this canopy that
- will eliminate a lot of that hodgepodge look and
- unify the whole building. So you see one level line
- 9 except for the worship space. The worship space is 10 vaulted on the inside. We have a higher space just
- 11 like we have a higher space in this room. The
- 12 minaret is not a space to be occupied. It's more
- 13 structural than a space we would inhabit.
- MS. TUBMAN: Before you move on, the
- 15 questions were asked of the building height, the
- 16 dome height and the minaret height.
- MR. FINELLI: I'm going to read right 17
- 18 off of the architectural drawings as submitted. The
- 19 parapet -- and the parapet is that portion of the
- 20 canopy as I was talking about, the most forward edge
- 21 of the canopy that encircles the entire building.
- 22 That parapet is 16 feet above the floor.
- The upper roof, and by upper roof, I 23
- 24 refer to this area here which is the flat roof
- 25 portion among the main worship space, that is 20

- 1 So the primary entrance that we would
- 2 anticipate for the daycare would be like here, and
- as you can see, we have direct means of egress in
- 4 case of emergency at one locations, two locations, a
- 5 third location as well as the primary and even
- 6 another fourth location down this corridor and out
- other parts of the bidding. So we have -- we have
- 8 ample -- certainly more than the code requires, but
- 9 ample means of egress from all the spaces.
- There was one other question in the --10
- 11 for me in the professional's report that talked
- 12 about phasing. You know, again, like any -- like
- any house of worship that I worked on over the
- 14 years, there has always been talk of phasing. In a
- perfect world, we would love to have the money to
- 16 build all this at one time and make life easy for
- 17 all involved whether it's the congregation or
- 18 contractors, but, obviously, that may not be the
- 19 case. We have yet to determine that, but that may
- 20 not be the case.
- If it is not the case, then we would 21
- 22 anticipate the worship space, you know, all of the
- 23 restroom facilities and all of the primary and
- secondary means of egress in the worship space being
- 25 at first phase. It is the cornerstone of the

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- 1 feet. The top of the dome, the very peak of the
- 2 dome is at 35 and the very peak of the minaret is at
- 3 47 and a half feet. The existing building, as I
- 4 mentioned before to the gable, the highest gable of
- 5 the building which is currently the current banquet
- 6 hall is about 22 feet to the gable.
- I think, in general, the testimony has
- 8 addressed most of the issues that were in your
- 9 professional reports, and I'm just going to look
- 10 through there quickly and make sure there is nothing
- 11 that was missed.
- We addressed the height. We addressed 12
- 13 the uses inside the building, materials inside the
- 14 building, emergency egress from daycare, security
- 15 light. Emergency egress I did address.
- Greg, if you can go back to the floor 16
- plan for just a second, and just to be clear about 17
- 18 this, these spaces here are generally the daycare
- 19 spaces. We would anticipate being able to use some
- 20 of these spaces as well. The outdoor recreation
- 21 area that you saw in Mr. Folk's plan would be
- 22 somewhere back out here, the part that is in that
- 23 back area across the woods and, of course, the
- 24 parking lot where there would be some outdoor spaces
- 25 for over here.

- 1 building obviously with other uses to follow, but as
- 2 of this point, phasing has not been -- has been
- 3 discussed but not established. I believe that's it
- 4 for direct testimony.
- MS. TUBMAN: Questions by the board of 5
- 6 this witness?
- MR. FRANCO: Actually, I had a question
- 8 regarding -- I had a question regarding the daycare,
- 9 and I think you're the appropriate person. In
- 10 terms -- I believe it's 40 children is what it's
- 11 proposed right now.
- MR. FINELLI: Yes. 12
- MR, FRANCO: And that's based on state 13
- 14 code in terms of square footage and square footage
- of play area outside?
- MR. FINELLI: Well, the daycare 16
- 17 regulations vary based on the age of the child and
- 18 the program involved. So we have maximized that
- 19 space now based on our anticipated age of child and
- 20 duration of the day, you know, whether it be
- 21 preschool activities, all day long activities. So
- 22 we have established that number as our maximum
- 23 number.
- MR. FRANCO: Okay. And, really, based 24
- 25 on those codes, there's no room for expansion?

1

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MR. FINELLI: Daycare facility.

MR. FRANCO: Correct. 2

MR. FINELLI: The daycare facility is a 3

4 less intensive use than the assembly use. So if we

5 were to -- if we were to somehow, you know, have a

6 burgeoning daycare business, it would only result in

a less intense use of the building and the parking

of the facilities than daycare would, but that's not

anticipated. 9

MR. FRANCO: Okay. Thank you. 10

MAYOR HAYES: Can you tell me how did 11

12 you come to the heighth of the minaret?

MR. FINELLI: You know, design is -- I 13

14 have a development staff to be perfectly honest with

15 you. So it's a matter of proportion. We have

16 primary worship space that is -- the primary worship

17 space is 50 feet six inches by 50 feet. As a matter

18 of proportion, the volume that I want to feel in

this space is, you know, somewhere between

20 two-thirds and three-quarters of that. It will feel

21 like one space. It will not feel like that volume

22 is off to the corner or that I have segregated the

23 main space.

So working from the inside out trying

25 to establish the right proportion of volume to the

1 higher, lower?

MR. FINELLI: It could be higher, but,

3 again, you know, when I say that --

MAYOR HAYES: It could be lower too.

MR. FINELLI: Well, you know, it really

6 couldn't be higher either. From a code perspective,

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7 it could be higher. It could be lower. The dome

8 could be bigger, smaller, fatter, but it's a

proportion. So when the dome is established working

10 inside out, the dome is a function of trying to

11 convey a certain feeling inside the space.

Once that dome is comfortable to my

13 eye, then I'm working with the outside of the

14 building, and the outside of the building, the

15 minaret needs to grab some attention. So the

16 minaret -- I mean, honestly, when we play with the

17 outside design of a building, especially when we

18 have tools like the 3D modeling at our hands, and we

19 draw that minaret, and with the click of the mouse,

20 I can make it six inches taller and look at it

21 incrementally. At some point you look at it and say

22 it's too tall, it's too short, it's too skinny, it's

23 too fat. So it's a design process of finding the

right proportion that works with the building.

MS. TUBMAN: Is it the equivalent of a 25

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1 person in the space generated the sketches that

2 developed into that dome and the dimensions of that

3 dome. So let's say I have, I don't know, a couple

4 hundred seats in this room. I'm not sure what the

5 number is, but if I had an eight foot ceiling in

6 this room, it would feel very squashed. So working

7 from the inside out, I have a prayer space that can

accommodate a couple hundred people. I want a space

9 that feels like it's holding a couple of hundred

10 people. Within that space, I want to convey that

11 feeling of volume. I want to convey that vertical

12 feeling. That's where the dome comes in.

MAYOR HAYES: But the minaret is 13

14 outside? Did I get it right, minaret, the term?

MR. FINELLI: Yes, the minaret. We go

16 back to the elevation. The first question was the

17 dome, and that's what I was responding to first

18 because the dome is really working from the inside

19 out.

Minaret is strictly an exterior feature 20

21 of the building. It is a public feature of the

22 building. It is intended to convey to those passing

23 by what that building is for. It does not have any

24 effect. There's no interior space to the minaret.

MAYOR HAYES: So the height could be

1 steeple?

MR. FINELLI: It's close to a steeple.

3 It might be closer to a tower line or a bell tower

4 that you would see outside of a Christian Church

often enough. So, partly, it is -- you know, it's

supposed to mean something when you see it. So part

of that is really, you know, just the visual weight

8 that element has and to take that same element and

9 make it out of proportion with the building or out

of the proportion with the importance it's supposed 10

11 to convey will hinder the design -- the success of 12 the design.

MAYOR HAYES: Thank you. 13

MR. MOENCH: Sir, I have a few 14

15 questions. To follow-up on the height line of

questions at the moment, could you explain for my

benefit how our height ordinances and codes impact 17

the height of the minaret or not? How do they apply

or not apply in this instance? 19

MR. FINELLI: Height restriction, 20

21 height ordinances or height restrictions in the land

22 use ordinance, generally, throughout the State of

New Jersey in a residential zone, it's very common

24 to see the restriction that we have here. We have a

25 35 foot two and a half story maximum height. I

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- 1 can't -- I can't think of any single ordinance in
- 2 New Jersey that I've worked on in a town which I've
- 3 worked that limits the height of those aspects of
- 4 the building, especially the house of worship.
- 5 Steeples, bell towers, this very thing we're talking
- 6 about is not limited by ordinance. It's a
- 7 recognition of the importance of that element in the
- 8 design of the building.
- 9 So, whereas, every use for
- 10 single-family residential, every commercial or
- 11 quasi-commercial use will have associated with it a
- 12 maximum height, you know, very often that's part of
- 13 a -- of a long and expanding equation that all of us
- 14 in this business work with that used to be just
- 15 setbacks. Now it's, you know, ratios and become
- 16 more and more complicated, but that -- that caveat,
- 17 that exception for those design elements that are so
- 18 particular to a use has always existed, and I don't
- 19 see why it wouldn't continue to exist.
- 20 MR. MOENCH: Sir, just so I'm clear,
- 21 are you suggesting under the Bridgewater ordinances
- 22 that there's no regulation building height is capped
- 23 at 35 feet in this district, but there's no
- 24 regulation either way in terms of structures on top
- 25 of the roof? Is that --

- 1 other structures whether it be nonresidences or
- 2 anything else that is 47 and a half feet tall in
- 3 that area?
- 4 MR. FINELLI: I don't know, but,
- 5 generally speaking, any three-story office building
- 6 is going to be about 42 to 45 feet.
- 7 MR. MOENCH: Do you know if there's any
- 8 office buildings in the vicinity of the Redwood Inn?
- 9 MR. FINELLI: Five minutes from Route
- 10 22, they're up and down.
- 11 MR. MOENCH: I don't know if you know 12 the answer.
- MR. FINELLI: I don't know the answer.
- 14 I say everything I drive by in the very immediate
- 15 neighborhood is residential, and I would say that
- 16 probably, you know, those are 30 to 35 feet.
- MR. MOENCH: Have you done any
- 18 calculations, renderings, balloon tests to gauge the
- 19 height -- impact of the height of the minaret on the
- 20 area with regard to how the distance that it will be
- 21 visible from the -- in the area and the impact on
- 22 residences in the vicinity?
- 3 MR. FINELLI: I have not, but the grade
- 24 drops from Mountaintop Road to the building. We
- 25 could have an exact number, but I believe the grade

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- 1 MR. FINELLI: Well, there are -- I mean
- 2 just to be really clear, on a residence, I can have
- 3 a roof appurtenance, a chimney, a cupola. I can
- 4 have those things. I'm not sure if there's usually
- 5 an exception. There might be a variation of that
- 6 for a residential use. For this use, house of
- 7 worship use, there is no limitation to those two
- 8 particular items.
- 9 MR. MOENCH: Do you know what the
- 10 highest structure in the area is beside the
- 11 proposed -- if this is built as-is, are there any
- 12 other structures in the vicinity that are as high as
- 13 the top of the minaret?
- 14 MR: FINELLI: I'm not really sure. I
- 15 know that some of the bigger homes in the
- 16 neighborhood are -- they're every bit I mean to the
- 17 peak. Now we're looking at height to the actual
- 18 peak. So in a gable roof and a gable roof for --
- 19 you know, a gable roof like an A sometimes will
- 20 define height as the average from the ridge to the
- 21 gutter line let's say. I believe Bridgewater
- 22 defines it to the actual height to the peak. I
- 23 don't believe there's a residence that's 47 and a
- 24 half feet height.
- 25 MR, MOENCH: Do you know if there's any

- 1 drops about 10 feet. So, you know, I mean I would
- 2 take that into consideration too, and the other
- 3 thing I would take into consideration is that
- 4 diameter of that minaret is about six and a half
- 5 feet. So it's not a structure going 47 and a half
- 6 feet. It's one element of the structure.
- 7 MR. MOENCH: I know, for instance, when
- 8 we deal with cell phone towers, often times we'll
- 9 conduct balloon tests so that both the board and the
- 10 residents have an understanding as to what the
- 11 actual peak of that proposed structure will look
- 12 like and have an impact on the vicinity and also
- 13 provide renderings from different areas of the
- 14 neighborhood or the particular area, you know, with 15 a proposed what that will look like. You have not.
- 16 done that here?
- MR. FINELLI: No. You're talking about
- 18 elements that are a couple hundred feet tall, and
- 19 we've been associated with that and -- but, no, we
- 20 have not done that.
- 21 MR. MOENCH: Okay. Do -- in talking
- 22 about the calculation of occupancy for the main
- 23 prayer space, what is -- what was your calculation
- 24 as to occupancy of that room?
- MR. FINELLI: Okay. So in the main

- 1 prayer space, based on the description that I gave
- 2 you before allowing for means of egress corridors,
- 3 we have 220 occupants in the main worship space, and
- 4 there are 30 -- I'm sorry. Again, Greg, let me go
- 5 back to the plan. I can point this out. We'll get
- 6 that in a second.
- 7 The main prayer space is 220 people.
- 8 There is an elevated area. The elevated and a
- 9 little bit behind the main prayer space, which is
- 10 the primary women's prayer space, there are 30
- 11 occupants there. So that's a total of 250 if I
- 12 utilize all of the space in the multi-purpose rooms.
- 13 So I would utilize all of the space on the
- 14 multi-purpose rooms on both the north and the south
- 15 side of the main space. That would add 90 and 97
- 16 persons respectively. So the entirety of the
- 17 occupancy, if the main space and the ancillary
- 18 spaces were used for prayer spaces, is 437 persons.
- MR. MOENCH: Okay. Is that the number
- 20 that was then the traffic engineer or somebody then
- 21 took and figured out how many parking spaces that
- 22 you need?
- MR. FINELLI: I believe so. I'll leave
- 24 that to him.
- MR. MOENCH: The one question I have, I

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- 1 off by about 60 attendees which, of course, includes
- 2 cars and deal with parking and traffic issues that
- 3 we'll get to with other witnesses.
- 4 MR. FINELLI: I've designed about a
- 5 dozen houses of worship. Half of those were Roman
- 6 Catholics, half of those were Christian Churches.
- 7 So by comparison, we will never judge, you know, 50
- 8 weeks of the year based on Christmas and Easter. We
- 9 just won't. It doesn't make sense to burden the
- 10 facility with the demands of two days a year. We
- 11 all recognize that in the industry.
- 12 I'm sure everybody at the board and I'm
- 13 sure everybody in the audience recognizes that, but
- 14 what we're saying that, in anticipation of that type
- 15 of occupancy of the building, the owner will simply
- 16 rent a hall someplace else.
- 17 MR. MOENCH: Of course, we'll have
- 18 something from the -- from your organization to
- 19 answer those questions. I certainly know that when
- 20 there are those big -- if any organization is going
- 21 to build a house of worship, they presumably want to
- 22 have their big ceremonies at their new house of
- 23 worship rather than renting out a facility.
- I want to make sure that we have
- 25 adequately prepared for parking because we've heard

- 1 have -- part of my packet has a chart showing
- 2 activity and estimated attendees, estimated parking,
- 3 and it shows at least twice a year for certain
- 4 prayers estimated attendees of 500 people. The
- 5 numbers you gave me would show that the occupancy of
- 6 the building is less than -- would only hold less
- 7 than 500 people. Can you explain those numbers?
- 8 MR. FINELLI: Yeah. The numbers were
- 9 generated by -- Alfalah generated all of the
- 10 occupancy numbers based on the projections of where
- 11 they would like to see their congregation grow and
- 12 develop. They have -- in years past, they have
- 13 rented this very hall, and on occasion for those
- 14 two -- those two seasonal ceremonies, they will rent
- 15 a facility elsewhere.
- L6 So if we are at that same situation,
- 17 same circumstance, they will use another facility.
- 18 So the occupancy in this building will be posted and 19 limited to 437.
- MR. MOENCH: Because one of the
- 21 concerns that I know I've heard and that we've heard
- 22 tonight is just making sure that what we're
- 23 anticipating is going to be the occupancy of the
- 24 building or the use of the building is not being
- 25 underestimated. I'm showing two numbers showing it

- 1 testimony, we've heard concerns about parking on the
- 2 roadway and making sure that we have adequate
- 3 parking spaces.
- 4 Have you observed or reviewed other
- 5 mosques in terms of their usage, their -- not
- 6 structure from an esthetics standpoint, but from a
- 7 utility standpoint and their spaces compared to
- 8 usage and how it compares to this?
- MR. FINELLI: Yeah. We visited six or
- 10 seven mosques in New Jersey when we began this
- 11 exercise, and I believe -- I believe only one of
- 12 them -- two of them, only two of them were actually
- 13 built new from the ground up where you would get
- 14 your say about everything, about how big the space
- 15 was and everything else. The others were all
- 16 renovations or alterations of existing buildings.
- 16 renovations of afterations of existing outlaings
- 17 So the program that this building
- 18 depicts is a pretty universal program. The highest
- 19 and most intense use is prayer space. The prayer
- 20 times at the facilities that I visited where the
- 21 congregation was -- you know, some were larger, some
- 22 were smaller. The midday prayer times were anywhere
- 23 from five people to maybe 25 or 30 people really
- 24 tops.
- The other spaces are all based on

- 1 accommodating those uses. So the restroom spaces
- 2 are based on the maximum occupancy. The other
- 3 services, the multi-service spaces, the daycare
- 4 spaces, those are very typical uses in every one of
- 5 the other facilities that I visited. Sometimes if
- 6 they -- you know, they weren't all one-story
- 7 buildings. So you had a different sense of
- 8 connectedness with -- you know, with the main space.
- 9 So it didn't seem sometimes like you were in a house
- 10 of worship, but, primarily, I would say that there
- 11 is -- that there is just about everything in this
- 12 facility that we would expect out of a community
- 13 center that is primarily serving as a house of
- 14 worship.
- MR. MOENCH: With the proposal to use
- 16 the facilities both as a house of worship and a
- 17 daycare center, have you reviewed any additional
- 18 code requirements that may be different, whether
- 19 they be from Bridgewater or the state, with regard
- 20 to security, fire, any other materials, that type of
- 20 to security, fire, any other materials, that type of 21 thing that might be applicable to a daycare center
- 22 that may not be applicable to a house of worship and
- 23 you can factor those into the plans?
- MR. FINELLI: We did, and none of them
- 25 are zoning. They're all construction. So when we

- 1 impact the use of the property?
- 2 MR. FINELLI: Aside from the design
- 3 aspect I spoke about initially, we're going to look
- 4 at this really in two ways.
- To separate out the daycare question,
- 6 we would anticipate that the daycare -- the use of
- 7 the daycare rooms would not interfere with or really
- 8 commingle in the corridors with the worship space.
- 9 So we want to provide primary and secondary means of
- 10 egress at minimum to the daycare spaces. So we have
- 11 our primary ingress/egress. We have straight shot
- 12 corridors. Our exit signs will be visible at all
- 13 times. We have a primary and secondary.
- We also have another means of egress
- 15 here and another means of egress here. So we have
- 16 no issues at all with travel distance for very young
- 17 children or for very old people. We are limited in
- 18 the amount of time it would take to evacuate a
- 19 daycare.
- Now, we usually think of daycare in
- 21 terms of little kids. We are also using the same
- 22 requirements if there are seniors. So we have time
- 23 limitations for means of egress. So we have really
- 24 the one, two, three, four means of egress from those
- 25 daycare spaces, those potential daycare spaces.

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- 1 get to the point of filing for construction permits,
- 2 those will all be accommodated. Part of the daycare
- 3 permit is a licensing protocol through the state,
- 4 and that has very little to do with construction,
- 5 but it does govern -- based on the age of the child,
- 6 it governs accessibility issues, distance traveled
- 7 from those rooms to points of egress, fire
- 8 suppression systems. You know, if they're very
- 9 young children, even the heights of the light
- 10 switches in the restroom facilities.
- 11 MR. MOENCH: How many total points of
- 12 egress do you have proposed on the building?
- MR. FINELLI: Let's see. We have --
- 14 we'll start here, and we'll just go clockwise. One,
- 15 two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, 10,
- 16 11. Eleven points of ingress/egress.
- MR. MOENCH: What's the reason for that
- 18 many points of ingress in and out of the building?
- My question is also related to security
- 20 concerns. If you have multiple places of entering
- 21 the building, it's more places that -- when you have
- 22 a daycare center, there's also concerns about folks
- 23 leaving the building and why would they need 11
- 24 different places to exit the building, where are
- 25 they going on the property and how is that going to

- In the worship space, the building code
- 2 looks at assembly and especially a house of worship
- 3 assembly for the primary means of egress. The
- 4 secondary means of egress in a worship of facility
- 5 have to handle at least two-thirds of the total
- 6 occupancy. So that's not the same in a facility
- 7 like this.
- 8 We have different -- different ratios.
- 9 So egress widths are calculated, you know, so many
- 10 inches per occupant. It has to be how wide the
- 11 doors have to tally up to. It's affected by length
- 12 of travel. It's affected by suppression system, if
- 13 there is one or if there is not one.
- 14 So, generally speaking, we have a
- 15 primary ingress/egress through the main door,
- 16 through the foyer. That's our primary means of
- 17 egress. Our secondary and tertiary means of
- 18 egress -- and, again, at the same time, we are
- 19 required to make them as remote as possible.
- 20 There's a little bit of discretion there, but you
- certainly can't have the primary means of egress here and then, you know, just a few feet away that
- 23 secondary means of egress. It just doesn't make
- 24 common sense. The code recognizes that.
- 25 So we have our primary here at the

Page 131 Page 129 CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER 1 entrance of the building and, really, our secondary 2 2 means of egress are right here, these two sets of 3 3 double doors that go directly out to the parking I CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true 4 lot. That's really what we're talking about. I and accurate transcript of the testimony and 5 think we talked about 11. If I look at mostly proceedings as reported stenographically by me at 6 what's accessible, there's two sets of double doors the time, place and on the date as hereinbefore set 7 to the parking lot. One set of double doors out to 8 forth. 8 the front. 9 I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither This set of doors here is really -- I a relative nor employee nor attorney or counsel of 10 10 would anticipate that really being used as a service any of the parties to this action, and that I am 11 entrance for caterers if and when the times occur. 12 neither a relative nor employee of such attorney or 12 So I wouldn't really count that. So we have counsel, and that I am not financially interested in 13 13 separated our means of egress from the assembly use, 14 and we have provided more than what the code 14 the action. 15 15 requires us to have. 16 MR. MOENCH: I think that's all my 16 DIANE M. HOLMES, C.C.R. Certificate No. XI01660 17 questions for this evening. I may have more 17 18 tomorrow. 18 19 MR. FINELLI: Sure. Tune in tomorrow, 19 20 same channel. 20 CHAIRMAN RUSAK: What we'd like to do 21 21 22 now is probably, if you can hold your questions for 22 23 tomorrow, we'll adjourn, and we'll open up with 23 24 questioning this witness tomorrow. Same time, same 24 25 place, 7 p.m. 25 Page 130 Thank you for your attendance and have 1 2 a good evening. (Proceedings conclude at 10:14 p.m.) 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 1.7 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25