

August 24, 2019

Mr. Randall Pratt
Attorney
First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown
2880 Crompond Road
Yorktown Heights, New York 10598

Reference: Your August 23, 2019 Application for Certificate of Appropriateness for Solar Panel Installation – First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown

Dear Mr. Pratt,

The Yorktown Landmarks Preservation Commission (YLPC) is pleased to issue the Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA) for the proposed solar panel installation on the Christian Education annex building located at the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown property.

The YLPC voted unanimously to approve the CoA. We support your commitment to sustainability and “green” initiatives while being mindful of the historic character of the landmarked First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown on the property.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Briggs
Chairman,
Yorktown Landmarks Preservation Commission
CC: First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, Katharine Frase
Diana Quast, Town Clerk
John Landi, Building Inspector
John Tegeder, Planning Director
YLPC Members

Yorktown Landmarks Preservation Commission
1974 Commerce Street
Yorktown Heights, New York 10598

This is a resolution adopted by the Town of Yorktown Landmarks Preservation Commission on August 24, 2019.

Whereas the entire property located at 2880 Crompond Road, Tax ID 26.20-1-8, commonly known as the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, is one of fifteen officially town designated landmarks, having received its formal designation on February 14, 1976, according to the Yorktown Code, Section 198. Landmark Preservation;

Whereas the Yorktown Landmarks Preservation Commission must issue a Certificate of Appropriateness which approves the proposed solar energy system on the annex building on the landmark property;

Whereas the owner, First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, has submitted the required application and supporting materials, including panel location and estimated solar energy production, for the proposed solar system installation, to secure a Certificate of Appropriateness;

Be it resolved, the Town of Yorktown Landmarks Preservation Commission, after reviewing the submitted application and supporting materials and conducting site visits, voted to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness, pursuant to Section 198.5-7 of the Town of Yorktown Code, for the proposed solar installation; no solar panels will be placed on the landmarked sanctuary consistent with the Secretary of Interior Rehabilitation Standards. A solar array, which includes one hundred forty-three (143) solar panels, will be placed on the roofs of four integrated structures, called the Christian Education annex building, and will face west, east and south; the design and layout of the panels (with varying efficiency ratios, east facing 65%, west facing 68% and south facing, 86 to 96%) provide the church with an 80.1% efficiency ratio, meeting the 80% efficiency threshold required by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA); financially executing the project required grants from NYSERDA, which are only available when the total installation rating equals or exceeds 80% efficiency.

Removing the panels from the southern exposure (visible from the public right of way, handicap parking lot and New York State Route 202), to achieve the same output would decrease the efficiency below the 80% threshold, resulting in substantial reduction of the solar energy output and impede the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown's visible commitment to becoming a GreenFaith Congregation. The existing structures, with the proposed energy

devices and racking system, have been certified as capable of supporting the design loads required by law.

Over the last two years, the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown has engaged in a series of “green” initiatives, achieving GreenFaith certification in late 2017, and subsequent certification as a Presbyterian Earth Care Congregation. The installation of the solar array, in a visible manner, is an important part of demonstrating another step in the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown’s commitment to going “green.”

Be It Further Noted that this resolution shall function as the Certificate of Appropriateness for said new construction.

Be It Noted, the Certificate of Appropriateness shall be valid for twelve (12) months, beginning on the date of this resolution, after which the owner must reapply if the owner still wishes to undertake the installation on the property.

Linda R. Briggs, Chairman

Date: August 24, 2019

CC: First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, Katharine Frase

Diana Quast, Town Clerk

John Landi, Building Inspector

John Tegeder, Planning Director