City to address solar in historic district

Master plan re-examination also to allow for future technological innovations

By Jack Fichter

The city’s Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), will vote this week on a master plan update. The city’s Planning Board has until March 13 to adopt a re-examination of the city’s master plan. A draft of the plan will be available for public view 10 days prior to adoption, according to Craig Hurless, board engineer.

The board may be able to adopt the plan at its meeting Feb. 28. If the public suggests revisions, they can be amended at a subsequent meeting, according to Hurless.

The Master Plan Advisory Committee has not reviewed the draft of the master plan examination but will meet again Feb. 17. The committee met Jan. 22 and was made aware by the city’s Environmental Commission that a separate energy master plan. Hurless said the master plan had a conservation element that could include the suggestion the city consider developing and adopting an energy master plan. Planning Board member Heather Ryan also indicated on the committee that they are also to be given to the HPC for examination. In the past, the HPC has objected to visible solar panels on historic homes.

The committee also recommended stronger language or a recommendation for the HPC to deal with new technology and materials on a broader spectrum for wind and solar energy. Hurless said he was not sure how to include such a point in the master plan. He said the HPC element of the master plan makes general recommendations for running renewable energy technology and new materials and guidelines for historic structures in the historic district.

“That’s been one of those topics where some people feel strongly that the HPC is regulating this appropriately and others feel strongly that they should be more lax and allow for more new energy systems and materials,” Hurless said. “I don’t know where the board falls on this.”

The recommendation in the past is that the city advocated for the HPC to mandate and encourage the HPC to look to make it more flexible on the board.

Murphy visits TRACEN

Gov. Phil Murphy talks with volunteers at the Jersey Cape Military Spouses’ Club on Thursday at Coast Guard Training Center Cape May, where a food pantry has been open since Jan. 3 for Coast Guard and civilian employees affected by the partial government shutdown. Murphy returned to work Monday with the threat of another shutdown hanging over them.

Dog days brighten day at Lower Twp. schools

By Jack Fichter

Cape May Star and Wave

ERMA — Kindergarten students at Living Sessions. They participated in group and individual reading sessions. They participated in group and individual reading sessions. They partici-

ed in all academic areas, so it doesn’t matter what’s happening throughout the day,” said Bailey.

He said teachers welcome the dogs into the classrooms and the students continue working. “The dogs also stop by the office,” she said.

“Our staff loves Mollie and Annie,” Bailey said. “Truly, they are members of our Memorial School family.”

The dogs offer friendship and are uplifting, bringing laughter, comfort and general happiness to students and staff, he said.

“The dogs appear in their classroom once a week when the dogs appear in their classroom once a week. One student wrote a story about how the dogs came to the area from Miami. The Branches gives meals, warmth, safety and security to people that need that kind of assistance. The Branches is open seven days a week.

Becoming a residential shelter for the homeless off the streets of Cape May County, The Branches is the area’s only day center that serves as many as 60 people a day at 168 E. Virginia Ave. in Rio Grande.

Throughout the county, officials have once again declared Code Blue when temperatures fall below freezing and the National Weather Service has declared Code Blue alerts.

According to the Cape May County website, “A Code Blue alert is declared when the temperature drops below freezing (32 F) with the possibility of freezing rain (32 F) without precipitation. A Code Blue alert denotes a danger to the homeless population.”

In the past, to get the homeless population out of the cold, and for the safety of others, the county offered room and meals, warmth, safety and security to people that need that kind of assistance. The Branches is open seven days a week.

Becoming a residential shelter for the homeless off the streets of Cape May County, The Branches is the area’s only day center that serves as many as 60 people a day at 168 E. Virginia Ave. in Rio Grande.

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Day centers in their areas. Poverty and marginalization are some of the many issues that homeless off the streets of Cape May County face. The Branches is open seven days a week.

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