

1 THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PLANNING BOARD OF  
2 THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

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5 GIAC SON BUDDHIST TEMPLE  
6 Detailed Site Plan, DSP-20002

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8 P A R T I A L T R A N S C R I P T  
9 O F

10 P R O C E E D I N G S

11  
12 COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

13 Upper Marlboro, Maryland

14 July 27, 2023

15 VOLUME 1 of 1

16  
17 BEFORE:

18 PETER A. SHAPIRO, Chair

19 MANUEL R. GERALDO, Commissioner

20 A. SHUANISE WASHINGTON, Commissioner

21 WILLIAM M. DOERNER, Commissioner

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OTHERS PRESENT:

- ANDREW SHELLEY, Staff, Urban Design Section
- TRACI SCUDDER, Attorney for Applicant
- DAVID WARNER, Principal Counsel
- JESSICA JONES, Planning Board Administrator
- JOE PARSONS, Sr. Technical Hearing Writer
- RONDA FORD, Technical Hearing Writer
- JAMES HUNT, Division Chief, Development Review Division

P R O C E E D I N G S

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2 Mr. CHAIR: All right. Moving right along, we're  
3 going to go to Item number 9, DSP-20002 Giac Son Buddhist  
4 Temple. We have Ms. Scudder, who is representing the  
5 applicant. We have Mr. Shelley, who will give staff  
6 presentation. I believe that there's going to be a request  
7 for a continuance on this.

8 But let's turn to Mr. Shelley real quick. Floor  
9 is yours.

10 MR. SHELLEY: Hey, good morning, Mr. Chair. Are  
11 you able to hear me okay?

12 MR. CHAIR: I can hear you fine. Thanks for  
13 checking.

14 MR. SHELLEY: Great. Thank you.

15 For the record, my name is Andrew Shelley with the  
16 Urban Design section. The item before you is Item number 9,  
17 Detailed Site Plan DSP-20002 for Giac Son Buddhist Temple,  
18 which seeks to develop a 4,625 square foot place of worship  
19 and maintain an existing single-family detached dwelling as  
20 a parsonage.

21 On June 22nd, 2023, the Prince George's County  
22 Planning Board held a public hearing for Detailed Site Plan  
23 DSP-20002 Giac Son Buddhist Temple. Planning Board voted to  
24 continue the public hearing until July 27, 2023, for the  
25 limited purpose of obtaining more information about a

1 proposed metal carport shown on the applicant's rendered  
2 site plan, which was submitted on June 20th, 2023 in  
3 conformance with the Planning Board's guidelines. The  
4 Planning Board also requested staff to provide the  
5 surrounding residents with the contact information for  
6 Prince George's County or Prince George's County Department  
7 of Permanent Inspection Enforcement, or DPIE, personnel  
8 regarding their concern on the existing and proposed  
9 stormwater management for the site.

10           Staff provided the surrounding residents who  
11 registered speakers the contact information for DPIE  
12 personnel on June 29, 2023, as demonstrated in Staff Exhibit  
13 1. Staff Exhibit 2 demonstrates communication between staff  
14 and DPIE personnel, where it was determined that the carport  
15 application has since been abandoned. Since the publishing  
16 of the memorandum on communication with DPIE personnel,  
17 known as Staff Exhibit 3, the applicant informed staff that  
18 the metal carport will no longer be constructed for this  
19 project. Staff is available to address any questions  
20 regarding the communication process with DPIE personnel.  
21 And this will conclude staff's presentation. Thank you.

22           THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you for the staff  
23 presentation.

24           Let's turn to -- unless there are questions, let's  
25 turn to Ms. Scudder. And I believe you're going to be

1 requesting a continuance on this, Ms. Scudder. Why don't  
2 take it away -- introduce yourself and take it away.

3 We can't hear you, Ms. Scudder, I'm sorry to say.

4 No, not yet.

5 Still nothing.

6 Yep. Take your time.

7 Commissioners, would it be helpful -- we have a  
8 bit of technology. Would it be helpful to take a ten-minute  
9 break? A little bit of a bio break?

10 Okay. So it's 12:23. Let's go until -- let's go  
11 until 12:30. And we'll be back.

12 And Ms. Scudder, our technical staff will stay on  
13 the line to help you figure out your issue as well, okay?

14 (Recess)

15 MR. CHAIR: Okay. Folks, we are gathering back  
16 together. Looks like we are all here. Let's give ourselves  
17 just another 30 seconds or so, So we honor that 12:33.

18 Here we go. So we're back from a brief break.

19 We're on Item 9 in our agenda Detailed Site Plan 20002 Giac  
20 Son Buddhist Temple. We've heard from staff, Mr. Shelley.  
21 We're now turning to Ms. Scudder.

22 And I believe you have a request for us and a  
23 little bit of background on that. Ms. Scudder, if you could  
24 introduce yourself and take it away.

25 MS. SCUDDER: Yes. Good morning again, Chairman

1 Shapiro. Sorry about those technical difficulties. Thank  
2 you for your indulgence. And good morning to the members of  
3 the Planning Board. For the record, Tracy Scudder with  
4 Scudder Legal, offices in Atlanta, Maryland, and at the  
5 National Harbor.

6           This morning, I have the pleasure of representing  
7 Giac Son Buddhist Temple, the applicant in Detailed Site  
8 Plan 20002, which, as Mr. Shelley just advised, is a  
9 proposal for a place of worship to maintain a single family  
10 and to maintain a single-family detached dwelling as a  
11 parsonage. I am joined today by representatives from the  
12 temple, as well as their consultants, who did a great job  
13 assisting with the processing of this application through  
14 the development review process.

15           I'd like to thank staff, Mr. Andrew Shelley, for  
16 always being available for a call or a meeting and just  
17 helping me to get up to speed in this case.

18           I'll be very brief. I entered this case  
19 approximately two weeks ago; tried to quickly get current on  
20 all the issues. Watched the Planning Board Hearing from  
21 June 22nd, and I understand that today we are here for a  
22 limited hearing to discuss one issue, that being the metal  
23 carport. That issue, as Mr. Andrew Shelley just explained  
24 earlier, is not an issue in this case. The metal carport is  
25 no longer being proposed by the temple, and they do not have

1 anything pending with the permit office at this time.

2           With that being said, the applicant respects the  
3 Planning Board's procedures. And since it appears that the  
4 one issue that was to be addressed today has been resolved,  
5 I have nothing further to present this morning. However, as  
6 you mentioned, Mr. Shapiro, I do have a procedural request,  
7 which is a request for a continuance. We're asking -- well,  
8 the applicant is asking that this case be continued until  
9 September 7th in order to allow time to further discuss the  
10 proposed statue and the landscaping screening and fencing to  
11 address issues that were not considered previously by the  
12 Planning Board at the June 22nd hearing.

13           And we would also ask that the continued hearing  
14 be re-noticed. The Temple wants to ensure that all persons  
15 of record are aware of the subject matter of the continued  
16 hearing.

17           And with that all being said, that completes our  
18 request. And thank you very much for your consideration.

19           THE CHAIR: Thank you, Ms. Scudder. So the  
20 request -- to my understanding, is the request is to  
21 continue the hearing. Do we have a date certain for that  
22 that you're recommending?

23           Or staff, Mr. Hunt, do you have one?

24           MR. HUNT: Mr. Chairman, I believe the applicant,  
25 as well as staff, is in agreement with the September 7th

1 Planning Board hearing.

2 THE CHAIR: September 7th. So then the ask is to  
3 continue the hearing to September 7th. And then two things.  
4 One is to expand the scope of the hearing to open it up to  
5 any issues that are -- essentially we're re-noticing the  
6 hearing, and we're opening it back up for any questions or  
7 comments that folks might have. And in part, this is going  
8 to give you time and the Giac Son folks time to do more work  
9 in the community. That's correct?

10 MS. SCUDDER: Yes. Although, you know, we are  
11 happy with limiting the scope to just the items that the  
12 Planning Board has jurisdiction over. And I think the main  
13 issues in this case at this time that the Planning Board has  
14 jurisdiction over are the statue, the landscaping,  
15 screening, and fencing items that we want to discuss. So  
16 obviously, Chairman Shapiro, that's up to you if you want to  
17 open the scope wider, but as for us, we are looking for a  
18 more limited scope.

19 THE CHAIR: Actually, I'm looking to follow your  
20 recommendation on this. So the limited scope -- the scope  
21 will be limited.

22 And Mr. Warner, help to make sure that this makes  
23 sense to you, too. What I'm hearing is the scope will be  
24 limited to issues related to the statue and related to  
25 landscaping and screening on the site.



1 MS. SCUDDER: And fencing.

2 MR. WARNER: And fencing.

3 THE CHAIR: Fencing. Okay.

4 So Commissioners, then what's before us again is a  
5 request for continuance, September 7th, change the scope of  
6 it, and re-notice it so folks from the public will  
7 understand and will have the opportunity to come and  
8 participate. Okay?

9 So with that, is there a motion?

10 COMMISSIONER WASHINGTON: Mr. Chairman, I move  
11 that we approve the request to continue DSP-20002 to  
12 Planning Board date of September 7th, and that the new  
13 Planning Board date is re-noticed, and it is communicated  
14 that it will be limited in scope to include the statue,  
15 landscaping, and screening and fencing issues only.

16 THE CHAIR: Okay.

17 COMMISSIONER DOERNER: Second.

18 COMMISSIONER GERALDO: Second.

19 COMMISSIONER DOERNER: Excuse me.

20 THE CHAIR: We've got a motion by Commissioner  
21 Washington and second by Commissioner Doerner. Yep.

22 COMMISSIONER DOERNER: I think so. I think I beat  
23 quickdraw. He was still coming back from the break.

24 COMMISSIONER WASHINGTON: I was eating my  
25 blueberries.

1           THE CHAIR: So we got a motion by Commissioner  
2 Washington and a second by Commissioner Doerner. Any  
3 discussion on the motion?

4           No discussion. I'll call the role.  
5 Commissioner Washington?

6           COMMISSIONER WASHINGTON: I vote aye.

7           THE CHAIR: Commissioner Doerner?

8           COMMISSIONER DOERNER: I vote aye.

9           THE CHAIR: Commissioner Geraldo?

10          COMMISSIONER GERALDO: I vote aye.

11          THE CHAIR: I vote aye as well. The ayes have it,  
12 4-0 for the continuance.

13          Thanks, Ms. Scudder.

14          Thank you, Mr. Shelley.

15          MS. SCUDDER: You're welcome.

16                 **(Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded.)**

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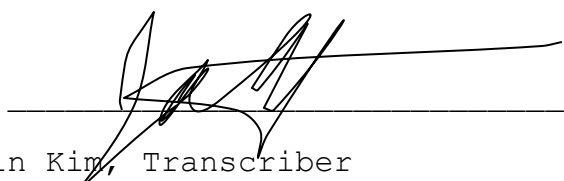
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DIGITALLY SIGNED CERTIFICATE

ESCRIBERS, LLC, hereby certified that the attached pages represent an accurate transcript of the electronic sound recording of the proceedings before the Prince George's County Planning Board in the matter of:

9113 BALTIMORE AVENUE

Detailed Site Plan, DSP-20002

By:  Date: October 25, 2023  
Justin Kim, Transcriber