

arrived at a figure of 1600 panels per acre, to arrive at a total of 48,000 panels for thirty acres. Mr. Bland distributed a copy of an article from Forbes Magazine describing hazards relating to solar panel arrays. Mr. Bland stated that the article describes a hum related to the inverters. Mrs. Copeland left at 3:46 PM. Mrs. Quarterman asked what height of trees and shrubs would be acceptable. Mr. Bland stated that he would much prefer that the variance not be granted, because the buffering and landscaping requirements were there for a reason. Mr. Brantley asked how wide the strip of property is that Mr. Bland is buying. Mr. Bland stated he was unsure.

Vice Chairman Strickland asked if anyone else would like to speak in opposition to the application. Leslie Bius, 2430 Meadowbrook Drive, and a member of Glory Hill Cowboy Church, stated that they have used the nearby church and pastor's home for weddings, events, trail rides, and other activities. Ms. Bius stated that Mr. Wetherington had been a good neighbor, but she had concerns about the impact of the panels upon the pastor's home life and the church ministry. She stated that a portion of their church's worship occurs outside throughout different activities, and she respectfully asks that the variance not be granted, and that the full buffering standards apply.

Vice Chairman Strickland asks if anyone else would like to speak in opposition. Lonnie O'Neal, 3023 Pecan Plantation Road, stated that his father bought his land with working several jobs to pay for the land. Mr. O'Neal stated that he loved the land, that he worked hard to build the lake. Mr. O'Neal stated that they built the private dump nearby, and even though they had tried to fight it, the dump was still able to locate there, and he does not want to look at solar panels. Mr. O'Neal stated that flies came onto his property from the dump, and that his lake never filled up property because of the dump. Mr. O'Neal stated that they had the dump and the industrial park, and he and his neighbors hear noises from the industrial park. Mr. O'Neal stated that there are plants off of Exit 16 that would be great buffers, because you cannot see through it. Mrs. Quarterman asked if his property was higher than the property in question. Mr. O'Neal stated his property was higher.

Vice Chairman Strickland asked if anyone else would like to speak in opposition. Sunnie Bland, 3029 Pecan Plantation Road, stated that her husband and brother had already spoken, but she wanted to reiterate that this property was a part of her roots. Ms. Bland stated that her family of seven all lived on this property, and wanted to leave the property for their children. Ms. Bland stated they were buying the property from Mr. Wetherington to build a house on. Ms. Bland stated that her property would be blocked in on all three sides. Ms. Bland thanked the Board for their service, but she wants ZBOA to remember the roots of the community as well. Ms. Bland expressed concern about baptizing in the lake because of the potential of runoff from the solar panels

Vice Chairman Strickland asked if anyone else would like to speak in opposition of the application. No one else spoke. Seeing no one, Vice-Chairman Strickland stated the Board had several things to consider in making their decision. Mr. Hogan stated that after listening to both sides, the Board needed some answers, and his suggestion would be to table the request to see if anything could be worked out between the neighbors, and the Board needed more answers and facts. Mr. Brantley asked what questions he would like to see answers. Mr. Hogan stated he'd like to see the report from Georgia Power, a few more facts like numbers of panels, and some discussion among neighbors. Vice Chairman Strickland asked if thirty days would handicap anyone. Mr. Wetherington stated there was really nothing else for the neighborhood or the families to work out, but it comes down to the neighbors not liking what he wants to do with the land. Mr. Wetherington stated there was already a contract. Vice Chairman Strickland stated he thought that the Board may want more density in terms of the buffering.

There being no further discussion, Vice Chairman Strickland called for a motion. Mrs. Hobby stated she was ready to make a motion, but to keep in mind that she was a proponent for land owners, unless it negatively impacted neighbors. Mrs. Hobby made a motion to deny the request as presented, but adding the condition that instead of shade trees, to substitute the new and improved Leland Cypress. Mr. Holt seconded the motion. The motion was called and carried with a vote of 4 to 1, with Mr. Brantley voting against.