

Alfred Village Planning and Zoning Board
Minutes of the March 2, 2017 Meeting

Members Present: Austin Bower, Sherman Clarke, Karrie Edwards, Herb Ehrig (Chairperson), Louis Greiff

Non-Members Present: Peter McClain, Jim E. Ninos, Doug Turner

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM.
2. A motion made by Louis Greiff and seconded by Sherman Clarke to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2017 meeting was approved unanimously.
3. Doug Turner asked for advice from the PZB concerning his plan to add a wooden front porch to his home at the corner of South Main and Terrace Streets, which is within the Historic District. He was advised that he needed to present the project for review by the Historic Preservation Commission (Galen Brooks, Sherman Clarke, Terry Palmiter, and Phil Prigmore). After review by the HPC the project would come before the PZB to determine if it met current zoning code requirements. Both committees will need to review drawings and plans for the project. Mr. Turner could submit a preliminary application at the April PZB meeting. Sherman Clarke suggested that Mr. Turner discuss the project with CEO Chuck Cagle as a first step.
4. The January and February CEO Reports were discussed. Garbage visible on the eleven properties mentioned in the February report remains a problem for the village.
5. Peter McClain reported on recent Village Board of Trustees' activities as follows:
 - A. A matching grant opportunity was announced at a recent meeting of the Appalachian Regional Commission.
 - B. Safety and law enforcement were discussed at a Community Advisory Meeting. There was discussion of extending village lighting beyond Main Street.
 - C. The Allegany County Planning Commission has returned the first draft of Alfred's Comprehensive Plan.
 - D. Crows have become a problem in the village. Next fall village representatives will meet with representatives from ASC and AU to address the problem. At present ASC has installed recordings of hawk sounds to drive off the crows.
 - E. Many temporary signs in the village have become permanent signs. This requires attention.
 - F. The village police department has requested a winter shelter for its vehicles. This poses a potential problem because the parking area is within the Historic District. Peter

McClain asked the PZB to discuss this matter and make recommendations. Perhaps an ASC architecture student could design a parking structure that matched the existing building. Any such structure would require AU approval because the university owns the property.

G. A dead tree between 49 and 51 Pine Hill Drive poses a hazard and needs to be removed.

H. Peter McClain ended his report by reminding everyone present that the village election will be held on March 21, 2017.

6. Herb Ehrig reminded the PZB that a two-year permit was issued to convert the former Klan Alpine fraternity house into a multi-purpose building with a reception center on the ground floor and residences upstairs. To date no progress on this plan is evident, and there is considerable construction debris behind the building.

7. A "zombie property" on Pine Hill Drive is now being advertised as for sale.

8. Illegal parking was discussed. At present cars are parked in violation of the village zoning code, with the problem especially visible on lower South Main Street. As many as eleven vehicles have been seen parked illegally at one location. A possible solution is to require that driveway plans be submitted to the PZB for approval. At present the enforcement capabilities of the village are limited. Landlords of offending properties should be held responsible for providing adequate and legal parking surfaces for their tenants.

9. Mayor Justin Grigg suggested that Barry Eckstein be considered for the position of alternate PZB member. At present the PZB is short one regular member.

10. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Louis K. Greiff
Acting PZB Secretary