

MINUTES – Alfred Village Board of Trustees Public Hearing #2

March 13, 2012

Present: Deputy Mayor Rasmussen; Trustees Dosch, Prophet; Clerk-Treasurer Koegel; Police Chief O’Grady, 3 members of the planning board, 10 members of the public and 1 member of the press

1. **Public Hearing Opening** – Deputy Mayor Rasmussen opened the public hearing at 7:24 p.m.
2. **Local Law: Changes to Zoning Law**
 - a. Deputy Mayor Rasmussen, the designated Board Trustee Liaison to the Planning Board and Code Enforcement office, distributed zoning maps and the proposed zoning law change, and explained the history of how present zoning for what is now termed “Congregate Housing” came to be. Together with Planning Board member Peter McLain, she related how the discovery of a fraternity in residence in the village led to a Zoning Board of Appeals recommendation that the Village Board and Planning Board consider revisiting its zoning law. It was made clear the intent of the re-zoning was based on the need for inclusive zoning that would be respectful and responsible. The proposed law allows congregate housing, including fraternities and sororities, in the B-2 section of the village.
3. **Public Comment**
 - a. The public discussed grandfathering, college input on the re-zoning, other options that were considered (i.e., overlays), impact on taxable value of large houses if the re-zoning were not approved, the potentially positive and negative impact of a concentration of congregate housing in one area, and the level of authority that exists for legitimate as opposed to “underground” fraternities and sororities.
 - b. A member of the public mentioned the importance of the Code Enforcement Officer, Police, Justice and Mayor in enforcing the zoning laws.
 - c. A member of the public protested the change in zoning law because it could permit a fraternity or sorority in a location next to a church. She asked for any decision on the law to be tabled until more members of the public and board may be present at the meeting.
4. Deputy Mayor Rasmussen agreed to table the vote until at least the April 10th meeting, and invited the public to attend the April meeting and or to call Village Board members with further questions or comments about the proposed law.
5. **Adjournment** – The public hearing was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn L. Koegel, Clerk-Treasurer