

**Alfred Village Planning Board
Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2017, 7:30 pm, Village Hall, Alfred, New York**

Members Present: Austin Bower, Herb Ehrig, Barry Eckstein, Sherman Clark

Non-members Present: Peter McClain, Douglass Turner

Herb Ehrig called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

1. The minutes for May 4, 2016 meeting were approved by Barry and seconded by Austin. The decision was unanimous.

2. Applications

A. The continued review of application 17-004 from Douglass Turner to install a deck on the front of his house at 37 South Main Street. The Historical Preservation Committee (HPC) approved of changes to the house stating that the porch was not altering the structure of the house in any way and could be reversed in the future. Another issue has arisen concerning the setback limit for building a structure close to the road. In the old town ordinance, the setback is measured from the centerline of the road which makes his porch an acceptable distance away from the road. But, in the new ordinance it is measured from the inside of the sidewalk twenty-five feet which puts his house within the setback. The motion on the application was to turn him down and turn him over to the Zoning Board of Appeals to get the situation sorted out. The motion to deny was led by Sherman knowing that the situation would be appealed. Barry seconded it. The application now moves to the ZBA.

4. Monthly CEO Report: The CEO report for April was received and reviewed by the board members.

5. Trustee report (Peter McClain, Village Trustee)

*Peter would like to know if there are any suggestions to change the town ordinance like the situation with the setback so things can run more smoothly in the future.

*Peter discussed restaurants during Hot Dog Days, including issues with a food truck and by Alfred U. students that were parked on university property.

*Peter mentioned that the Community Advisory Panel was to have a board meeting the 20th of June.

*Peter and the board discussed a solution to the garbage and waste cluttering the town in certain areas. It was mentioned that both Alfred University and Alfred State should join to resolve the downtown revitalization issue (DRI).

*There was also a student survey that was conducted to figure out how many students walk through town and on the walkway/ bikeway that goes through it. Few students travel on it.

*Consolidated Funding ideas were discussed to get started with fixing the DRI and to promote students to get out and explore Alfred.

6. Other Business:

*A recap of the Local Government conference in Houghton was talked about for other business. Some speakers performed well while others seemed to go off topic in some of their discussions. Herb went to the presentation on variances. Sherman added something that he learned by saying you always want to be specific in your motions to protect yourself yet not too specific so you leave it up for interpretation.

*New Zombie properties are popping up around Alfred and there were a few addresses that were talked about. As Herb put it the “overgrown mess” on 150 N. Main St. needs to be taken care of. A rule was discussed about the height of the grass. The set height was not confirmed but the board thought that the owners of the properties should pay the lawn mowing bill if there grass gets out of control.

7. Herb called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35. Sherman approved the motion. Seconded by Austin.

Respectfully submitted,

Austin Bower, Acting Secretary