

ALFRED VILLAGE PLANNING BOARD

REGULAR MEETING –VILLAGE HALL

September 4, 2014 - 7:30PM

Members present: Ellen Bahr, Liz Cronin, Herb Ehrig, Lou Greiff, Peter McClain, Sherman Clarke

Others present Virginia Rasmussen, Chuck Cagle, Peg Prisco, Trevor Riley, and other members of the public

The meeting was called to order at 7:34pm by Pete.

I - Approval of the minutes

Liz motioned to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2014 regular meeting, Herb seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Liz motioned to approve the minutes of the minutes of the August 18, 2014 special meeting, Ellen seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

II – Applications

Application #14-012 from Amy Catania of Saranac Lake for a special use permit to use 56 West University as a bed and breakfast through airbnb.com. The planning board will schedule a public hearing to be held prior to the next planning board meeting on October 2.

Application #14-003 as revised from Alfred University for the AU Ceramics Museum. At the prior planning board meeting, the application was tabled pending a response from the NYSDOT to questions from the planning board.

Pete noted the need, going forward, for the planning board to work more closely with the NYSDOT and other relevant agencies during the SEQR process.

Pete read aloud the text of an email to him Paul McAnany, Regional Traffic Engineer, NYSDOT Region 6 in which Paul McAnany outlines the NYSDOT's interactions with Alfred University and the planning board regarding application #14-003.

Pete also read aloud the text of a letter to the planning board from Mike Niederbach of Alfred University in which Mike Niederbach reviews the University's interaction with the NYSDOT and the planning board regarding application #14-003.

Jason Rodd requested that an email to him from Charley Edmondson be shared with the board. Pete read aloud the text of the email, in which Charley Edmondson

requests additional information about of the concerns of the planning board and the NYSDOT.

Herb motioned for the board to go into executive session to discuss a legal matter. Liz seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Upon return from executive session, Pete moved that the revised application #14-003 be considered as a new application and be assigned a new application number, #14-010. Herb seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

In light of Charley Edmondson's request for additional information, Lou moved to table the application so that the planning board may provide more information to Alfred University. Herb seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chuck Cagle asked the board to note that the NYSDOT has not communicated with him about the project and has not returned his phone calls.

Pete indicated that he would communicate all of the relevant information and correspondence to Charley Edmondson.

III – Public Comments

Doug Turner suggested that the board consider holding a special meeting during the day so that a representative from the NYSDOT can attend and answer questions from the board and the community. Pete noted that a meeting could be useful and that, if not all board members were available, attendance by four would ensure a quorum.

Trevor Riley suggested that the board consider requesting a reduced speed limit through the center of the village as part of the ceramics museum application review process. Virginia Rasmussen clarified that such a request would eventually need to be made to the NYSDOT.

Jason Rodd noted strong community interest in the ceramics museum project, evidenced by the number of people (112) who have signed a petition against the driveway.

IV – Other Business

A: CEO Report – Chuck's report covered the period of July through mid-August. Pete raised a question about the fence that was replaced at 8 Church Street: Are there any special requirements for replacing fences in the historic district? Sherman will check the historic preservation ordinance for guidance. In response to a question about whether residents at 18 Church Street will be allowed to park on the grass in the side lot, Chuck responded that leases for that property stipulate that residents must park elsewhere (on campus, for example). In response to a question from Ellen

about parking requirements for multi-family dwellings, Virginia explained that in the overlay zone Chuck has the authority to modify or waive parking requirements.

B: Trustee's Report – Virginia reported that a steering committee is leading improvements at Mike Kenyon Children's park, including power washing and other repairs. The Trustees have started the process of creating the budget for next year. Chief Tim O'Grady has resigned from his position as Alfred's Chief of Police effective September 15. In light of his departure, the Trustees will take the opportunity to rethinking police staffing. Other projects include working with the Town of Alfred Board to find opportunities to share services, especially related to streets and water. The issue of trash collection will be revisited as well. Virginia and Chuck met with some landlords over the summer to provide information about village laws, model leases, etc. A handbook of useful information has been created and will be shared with landlords.

At the Trustee's September board meeting, they hope to pass the planning board's proposed changes to the zoning code, after which it will go to the county planning board for a response and, eventually, to a public hearing (possibly in October).

In follow-up to the Trustee's June 14 minutes, Herb asked whether the recipients of funding from Hot Dog Day have been involved in the community coalition discussions. Virginia said that they had not and thanked Herb for the suggestion.

D: Other -- Pete went next to item D. on the agenda in order to read a letter from Peg Prisco, notifying the board of her resignation following more than 30 years of service. Pete thanked Peg on behalf of the board for her many contributions. Pete will write a piece for the Alfred Sun recognizing the contributions that Peg Prisco and Anne Wenslow made to the village through their work on the planning board.

C: Zoning Change Recommendations – The board continued its work on revising some parts of the zoning code. Following the working session, Pete motioned to recommend the changes to the Board of Trustees for a vote. Liz seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

V – Announcements: None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2014, at 7:30pm at the Village Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Bahr, Acting Secretary