

Town of Romulus
Planning Board Minutes

Sept. 19, 2016

Guests: Dave Pittard, Cameron Hosmer, Pete Carroll, Kyle Collinsworth, John Arena, Peter Arena, Phillis Kaiser, Dave Kaiser, Penny Luongo

Roll Call

Tom Bouchard

Bill Karlsen

Sue Ellen Balluff

Mary Joslyn

Cindy Meckley

Al Nivison

Kate Sinicropi

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence

Approval of July 11, 2016 Minutes Mary noted a small grammar error, the date of the meeting. Motion to approve the minutes with correction by Al. Motion seconded by Cindy. Minutes approved with correction of the date.

Livestock Zoning Sue Ellen reported that it is still in process.

Noise Zoning At the last Town Board meeting we were asked to look at the noise zoning due to complaints regarding Buttonwood Winery. The time frame for ending music is at 10:00pm for a concert and 11:00pm for a wedding at Buttonwood Winery according to Mr. Pittard. Tom noted the many complaints the Planning Board received regarding an unauthorized concert this summer, as background for reviewing the noise ordinance.

Tom reviewed the existing noise ordinance.

A discussion followed addressing a number of issues including but not limited to the following: agricultural noise operations are not included in the noise ordinance as they are addressed in the Right to Farm Law; a related incident was addressed several years ago at the Three Brothers Winery and an agreement was reached with the neighbors affected; suggestions from the Town Board meeting were creating buffer zones and speaker placements; concerns as to how to enforce a noise ordinance when law enforcement cannot be expected to know each town's ordinance; vagueness of definitions in the ordinance need to be updated or clarified; there needs to be a time that the music is turned down;

wineries/businesses need to be good neighbors; several wineries/businesses indicated they did not want the law changed on their account; resources identified were Grass Roots Festival in Trumansburg, Pickin In the Fields Concert in Hecter, Three Brothers Winery.

Al requested that the ideas shared by those attending, be put in writing and sent to the Town. This will be very helpful for the Planning Board to use in drafting a revised ordinance.

Town Map Update Tom reported that it is being updated at Finger Lakes Regional Planning. It will be a draft that will come to us and the Town Board. Hamlet boundaries have to be determined. Who does that? Could the Town supply Harriet with actual house numbers? Bill clarified that Hayt's Corners is a good example, where Residential moves into Agricultural.

Planning Board Office Tom reported progress, as the office space is now emptied out. Tom called Bob Aronson, IDA, to ask for a desk from the Depot. We would like to have maps on the wall so anyone could see it and resource them.

Solar Tom reported on an inquiry from Renovas and another from Santa Monica, California, Cypress Creek Renewables, regarding an installation on Kennedy Road. Tom left a message that our line is 300 ft. north of Kennedy Rd. Kate reported research on Town of Geneva, Town of Ulysses and Town of Lansing Solar Zoning. Town of Lansing is just updating their Solar zoning which is not up on their website yet. She will follow up to get it and the outcome of some of their public hearings on existing zoning. Several resources were recommended: Genesee Region Planning Conference look at their website or call them; Cindy's training packet and the need to train Fire Departments responding as well as training owners; Solar Seneca working with STEPS; contact Ovid or Varick.

New Business

Old Business

Seneca Army Depot. Tom reported contact with Mr. Martin, owner of the Depot, is interested in coming to our next Planning meeting.

Diane Stephens Subdivision. Tom reported that the property was sold in one piece and as a result there is no necessity for pursuing a subdivision.

Akron Ag Special Use Permit. Mr. Brown's attorney talked to Tom today. We have made it very clear that it is a substantial change in use, requiring a Special Use Permit. Tom will contact Mr. Brown.

Comprehensive Plan. Tiny Houses discussed at last meeting, need to be in the plan. Truck traffic needs to be in Comprehensive Plan. Any other items please write them down and give to Mary.

Bates Smoke House. Carrie Buckley is currently operating in Willard. Tom contacted her, as she needs a Special Use Permit. She is seasonal at this point. The Seneca Co. Health Department is not letting her cook inside, but she can cook outside. She is closing for the winter. She wants to expand into the bar area to be able to serve wine and liquor.

Penny Luongo was heard regarding our ordinance. Her life has been threatened by a neighbor and she has been subjected to lewd behavior. The homeowner and renter have been served but she has never received a copy of what was served. She stated that her complaint went unheard by the Town. Dave Kaiser made a decision to send a letter as the zoning officer was out of town. The letter stated 60 days to vacate but our ordinance states 10 days to vacate. Discussion followed.

Next meeting Oct. 17th.

Motion to adjourn by Cindy, seconded by Mary. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate Sinicropi