

Town of Columbia
Regular Planning Board Meeting

July 19, 2023

The Town of Columbia Planning Board held its regular monthly meeting on July 19, 2023 at the Town Building.

Members Present: R. Bayzon, D. Kidder; D. Rubin, B. Warner-Davis

Others Present: John Sweetman, Sandy Dievendorf, Antonia Burke

Meeting called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Chairman Bayzon.

Planning Board Regular Meeting minutes, held June 21, 2023, were approved as presented.

Chairman's Report:

1. No response from Ray Donley, Town of Columbia Zoning Codes
2. Discussions conducted with Gary Livermore, Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension in Herkimer on June 19. The Agriculture Census for the County is not yet complete. Latest version is 2017.
3. Met June 27 with Oneida Herkimer County Planning regarding map options for Comprehensive Plan
4. Attorney Robert H. McKertich has written *5 Solar Law Tips from a Municipal Attorney*
5. A training session for use of the Town's smart board will be conducted by Ryan Fagan.

Communications and Reports:

- Draft minutes of the Town Board's July 6, 2023 meeting were routed.
- D. Rubin shared the following:
 1. Freeman's Journal article: *Village Trustees Approve Change in Zoning Law*. Law provides that short term rentals must be incidental to the residential use of the property.
 2. Adirondack Explorer article: *Public meeting scheduled for July 22 on proposed Short Term Rental Local Law*. B. Warner-Davis noted the Town of Speculator has a STR law where a permit is needed.
 3. Adirondack Explorer article: At the June 27 meeting the Long Lake Board spoke out against the proposed micro battery storage facility .

4. Training by NY Planning Federation will be October 5, 2023, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.
Subjects include land use planning and Tiny House usage.

- WOTUS is new term for Water of the US under Federal Regulations.

Old Business:

1. D. Kidder and D. Rubin reported July 12 meeting for flag siting by EDF at the Millers Mills Community Baptist Church and 250 Huxtable Road. Request for meeting was asked by church member and property owner.

New Business:

1. Town of Columbia Comprehensive Plan:
 - B. Werner -Davis: completed revisions needed for transportation, wildlife and communication. Changes will be implemented into plan by D. Kidder.
 - D. Kidder: the 2018 Comprehensive Plan is put into a google document. Kidder collected census data from two sources but needs to verify conflicting reporting.
 - D. Rubin: Historical information is in three sections. The narrative has been revised. The list of historic sites needs to be updated and the map will need to correspond with the sites identified. D. Rubin shared listing from various past references. Rubin will designate listing to use for Comprehensive Plan and will meet with R. Reichert or staff member at Oneida Herkimer County Planning Program to develop map.
 - R. Bayzon: Shared listing of possible maps available from Oneida Herkimer County Planning Program

Board and Public Discussion: Need to review Planning Board budget needs.

Chairman Bayzon adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Next meeting: August 16, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Kidder
Secretary

Copy: Town Clerk, Planning Board Members and alternate, ZBA Chairman, Codes Enforcement Officer, Town Webmaster