

MINUTES OF A MEETING AS HELD BY THE
TOWN OF AURORA PLANNING & CONSERVATION BOARD

SEPTEMBER 4, 2013

Members Present: Donald Owens, Chairman
William Adams
Laurie Kutina
Al Fontanese
Charles Snyder
William Voss
Timothy Bailey

Alternate Member: Norman Merriman

Absent/Excused: David Majka
Greg Keyser, CRA Engineering

Also Present: William Kramer, Code Enforcement/Building Inspector
Edward Snyder, Deputy Town Attorney
David Gunner, Highway Superintendent
Mike Evens, Highway Dept.

Chairman Owens presided over the meeting which began at 7:00 p.m. at the Aurora Town Hall, 300 Gleed Avenue, East Aurora, NY, with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Elizabeth "Liz" Cassidy was introduced to the Board as the newly hired clerk for the building department and Planning Board secretary.

The Board discussed the August 7, 2013 meeting minutes. Attorney Snyder stated he did not recall the motion to recommend rezoning 992 Olean as having stipulations listed. Several Board members agreed.

Charles Snyder moved to amend the motion he made on August 7, 2013 to read:

The Planning Board recommends the rezoning all of the property at 992 Olean Road (SBL# 188.01-2-11.11) to B2 (Business 2). Seconded by Laurie Kutina.

Upon a vote being taken: ayes – seven noes – none Motion carried.

Charles Snyder moved to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2013 Planning and Conservation meeting as amended; seconded by William Voss. Upon a vote being taken:
ayes – seven noes – none Motion carried.

Comments from the audience: none

Old business: none

New Business:

Don Owens introduced the topic of “Invasive plant Species in the Town of Aurora”, noting that overpopulation of deer is causing most of our environmental changes due to the fact that they eat tree seedlings, but do not eat invasive plant species.

A sampling of invasive plants that are choking out native species in Aurora are:

- Multiflora rose
- Honeysuckle
- Buckthorn
- Narrow leaf cat tails
- Purple loosestrife
- Phragmites
- Japanese knot weed

Highway Superintendent Gunner stated that Majors Park has a lot of knot weed. Mr. Gunner introduced Mike Evens from the highway department and noted that he is certified to apply pesticides to the invasive plants. Mr. Evens gave an in-depth report on invasive plants in Aurora and stated he currently uses Round-up to control plant growth.

After further discussion, the Planning and Conservation Board members stated the public needs to be informed about these invasive plants and how to deal with them.

Mr. Gunner stated the Town does not have a huge problem with these plants invading the Town’s right-of-ways, but noted that the County and State roads have more of these invasive plants.

Mr. Owens asked Mr. Gunner to pen a letter that could be sent to the County Legislature asking the County to become more involved in invasive plant control.

Timothy Bailey moved to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.; seconded by William Adams. Carried.

The next scheduled meeting of the Aurora Planning & Conservation Board is Wednesday, October 2, 2013.

Martha L. Librock
Acting Secretary