

# VILLAGE OF ALDEN PLANNING BOARD

13336 Broadway  
Alden, NY 14004-1394

## APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON January 20, 2016

Members Present: Chairman David Metz, Mike Green, Susan DeWitt, Dick Kegler, Doug Henry, Paul Werner, CEO Joe Czechowski, and Sue Galbraith

Not Present: Esther Kibbe

Chairman David Metz brought the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Chairman David Metz entertained a motion to accept the November meeting minutes. Motion was made by Paul Werner and seconded by Dick Kegler. All were in favor and the motion was so moved and carried out.

**New Business:** Chairman Metz cited an article in the NY Planning Federation Newsletter concerning solar panels, in which the following discussion ensued: with the Alden Correctional Facility looking to install solar panels, we should consider some code regulations concerning the appearance so that they are not obtrusive, and limit the amount or placement. CEO Czechowski informed the board that the zoning regulations could state that panels must be mounted on a structure. Paul Werner referred to a new subdivision in Clarence that is all green with solar panels on each house, and the CEO informed that board that a house on Willow Woods in the village has them on the roof. Members feel the issue needs to be addresses, not to tell residents what they could do, but to monitor placement and amount of panels allowed. The question of structural reports was also questioned, but CEO Czechowski said it is in the building code, as to how much weight a structure can hold. Chairman Metz asked members to think about the solar panel, research other towns, regulations on appearance and come up with ideas for the next meeting. The members are also encouraged to consider the same parameters for LED signs, as the CEO stated that they will be revising the sign code in the near future. Dick Kegler questioned why the drug store needed a variance for their sign, if it was too close to the street. CEO explained that the setbacks on B-1 need to also be addressed in the code. Chairman Metz recommended contacting the businesses and Chamber for input on sign revisions.

Mike Green expressed concerns for Lorenzi's, as the brightness of the business sign next to them is so bright at night. All agreed there are issues that need to be addressed in the sign code revisions – intensity and time limits.

Paul Warner inquired about Tim Horton's update. CEO explained they are looking to enclose the open patio section in the front of the building for more indoor seating. Planning Board will be their first step.

CEO informed that board on the Severyn Patio Home development on W. Main St. He emailed the developer and they are hoping for a spring start (weather permitting), but waiting on the Governor's approval. The Kraus property on Broadway near Westcott was discussed. The question being the driveway off Westcott and the width and grade of the hill. CEO said the driveway will probably have to be one way and is only 30' wide, and may encroach on the slope of Karlnoski's property on Broadway, but they will need to change grades and retaining walls may be needed. A surveyor was out last week taking measurements.

### **Old Business:**

None

### **Communications:**

None

Chairman David Metz entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Sue DeWitt and seconded by Mike Green. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

The next regular Planning Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 7:30 PM.

Submitted By,

Sue Galbraith  
Secretary to the Village of Alden Planning Board