

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD MINUTES

7:00 p.m., Thursday, May 9th 2023

In person, HSC Conference Room, Canton / on Zoom

I. Call to Order

- a. **Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum.** J. Rose called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. A roll call was held; a quorum was established.

	NAME	ABSENT	PRESENT		NAME	ABSENT	PRESENT
1.	Ken Bellor		X		Staff:		
2.	Kim Bisonette		X		Jason Pfothauer		X
3.	Don Chambers		X		Preston Santimaw		X
4.	Priscilla Darling		X		Guests:		
5.	Daniel Fay		X		Jordan Thibault		X
6.	Margaret Finen		X		Doug Douglas		X
7.	Laura Foster	X			Melinda Douglas		X
8.	Ed Fuhr		X				
9.	Andy Gilbert (Secretary)		X				
10.	Dan Huntley	X					
11.	Margaret Mauch		X				
12.	Robin McClellan		X				
13.	Kitty O'Neil (Chair)	X					
14.	Julia Rose (Vice-Chair)		X				
15.	Cherrie Shatraw		X				
			12/15				

- b. **Adoption of the Agenda.** Rose asked if there were changes to the agenda. Pfothauer offered three changes to the agenda; the training set for May 30th was changed to May 28th, a presentation on a battery energy storage system fire incident report would be added, and the full review labeled as a use variance should be an area variance. The modified agenda was unanimously adopted (Gilbert/Shatraw).

- c. **Adoption of the April 11th Meeting Minutes.**

Rose stated that she should be listed as the Vice-Chair and not the Secretary. The modified minutes were unanimously adopted (Shatraw/Fuhr).

II. Public Forum

None.

III. Project Reviews

a. **Referrals Returned Pursuant to MOU.** Pfothenhauer highlighted details for projects listed in the MOU list and the Addendum. There were no comments.

b. **Full Reviews.**

i. Stockholm (T) – Special Use Permit for a Quarry Expansion: Santimaw presented the project review. Board members, staff, and guests discussed:

- Rose: Has there been any new mining? Google Earth imagery shows that there has been mining close to the road.

- Douglas: The expansion area will be the green area around the mine.

- Gilbert: Does the DEC require a reclamation plan?

- Douglas: They plan to turn it into a lake.

- Chambers: The applicant already has a permit for a driveway; the DEC does require a reclamation plan and a bond. In addition, East Part Mine is a gravel mine whereas this mine is a ledge rock mine; the practices for each mine are different. The Catamount Ridge mine uses explosives and is louder.

- McClellan: Did the Planning Office feel the application was incomplete or sent too early?

- Pfothenhauer: Staff only received the site plan that was presented to the Board.

- Rose: Can comments made at this meeting go to the DEC as public comments?

- Pfothenhauer: Yes, if that is the desire of this Board.

- Finen: Should the setback be larger than 50'-100'?

- Pfothenhauer: Those recommendations came from other projects and codes; they can be changed.

- Rose: Can the Board ask to change the hours of operation?

- Pfothenhauer: Yes.

- Finen: This Board should change the setback condition from 50'-100' to a minimum of 250'.

- Gilbert: This Board should add a recommendation to change the hours of operation to 8 am – 5 pm.

- McClellan: Those should be changed on a case-to-case basis.

- Gilbert: The Town should review the hours of operation to best fit this project.

The Board voted to approve the project with the suggested conditions and recommendations (Gilbert/Mauch). Chambers dissented, McClellan and Fuhr abstained.

ii. Louisville (T) – Area Variance for a Wedding Venue: Pfothenhauer presented the project review. Board members and staff discussed:

- Chambers: Should this Board list the five tests as guidance to the Town?

- Pfothenhauer: The Town is aware of the tests.
- Bellor: Will this Board see this project again with a site plan?
- Pfothenhauer: We hope so, the project needs to comply with the local code.

The Board voted unanimously to disapprove the project (Fuhr/McClellan).

IV. Reports

- a. **Executive Committee.** Rose reported that the executive committee met to discuss the full reviews and MOU List.
- b. **Board of Legislators.** Fay reported:
 - May was proclaimed tick-borne disease awareness month;
 - The BOL passed a resolution addressing the increased restrictions on shooting ranges in the State;
 - The State asked Counties to accept the new DA salaries determined by the State;
 - The County is contracting with Clarkson to do an assessment of the trail system
- c. **Highway Department.** Chambers reported:
 - Projects that were highlighted in previous meetings are now underway.
- d. **State of the County Roundtable.**
 - A discussion continued on shooting ranges.
- e. **Staff Report.** Pfothenhauer reported:
 - The office has been busy working on multiple grants. The County has received more funds for the septic repair grant, the Planning Office has been working with the County Highway Department to secure bridge grants, and work has continued on broadband grants;
 - Staff participated in a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats meeting with the Village of Heuvelton as they continue work on the Village's Comprehensive Plan.

V. Other Items

- a. **Correspondence.** Pfothenhauer stated that:
 - The Town of Hammond approved an Amish woodworking operation.
- b. **Battery Energy Storage System Fires Incident Report Summary**

Santimaw presented a summary of an incident report that was FOIL'd from the DEC on three battery energy storage system fires that occurred in the summer of 2023.
- c. **Announcements.**

- May 28th will be the spring training session; different topics and case studies will be discussed.
- Pfothenauer attended the Rich Road solar project public hearing on Tuesday, May 7th. ORES took public comments for review.
- This Board will be looking at two full review projects in June; a referral for a Dollar General in Pierrepont, and a cryptocurrency law in the Town of Massena.

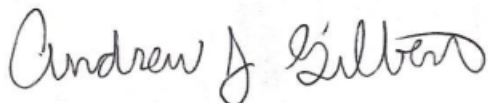
d. **Next meeting dates.**

- i. Executive Committee: Thursday, May 30th, 2024 at 4:00 pm.
- ii. Planning Board: Thursday, June 13th 2024 at 7:00 pm in the Second Floor Conference Room located in the HSC building, 80 State Highway 310, Canton NY.

VI. Adjourn

- a. The meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm (Fay/Shatraw).

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrew J. Gilbert".

Andy Gilbert, Secretary

Minutes prepared by P. Santimaw