

TOWN OF AMITY PLANNING BOARD  
Meeting Minutes  
5-15-2019

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM

*Members present:* Wendy Skinner, John Clouse, John Maynard, Gretchen Hanchett, Town Board  
*Liason:* Barb Zlomek; *excused:* Doug Serra; *absent:* Paula VanDyke; *guest:* Linda Pruski

*Pledge of Allegiance* led by W. Skinner

*Approval of minutes:* N/A

*New Business:* Liaison report

B. Zlomek gave a summary of the Southern Tier West Regional Development training at Houghton College, with a special focus on the NYSERDA session on solar farm installations and green energy. Also discussed was the issue of the solar energy installation on privately owned land that will be leased by the Genesee Valley CSD, and the construction of an emergency access road through a residential neighborhood for use by GVCSD. These issues will have to come before the planning board for site plan review and approvals.

Update from IDA

AC IDA director Craig Clark reported that the water line from Friendship to Belmont is moving forward. Bids for the project have been opened, and a contractor selected. Construction is expected to begin in late summer or early fall. Focus will be on establishing a fueling station at the site of the former truck stop. The hotel development is on hold, since two additional hotels on I-86 within 30 minutes both east and west of Exit 30 have impacted the statistics of a previously completed lodging study for the crossroads area, causing an investor to walk away from the project.

Solar Law

In anticipation of the green energy initiatives expanding across the state, John Clouse submitted a model solar law for review and edits by the planning board. We will go through this draft page by page, and tailor it to the needs of the Town of Amity. Of importance is to have a section on decommissioning a solar farm (not included in this draft) after its expected life use comes to an end, so that the town does not bear the liability and expense of dismantling and disposing of hazardous materials associated with solar farms.

*Old Business:* Vouchers

signed and submitted to town bookkeeper

Planning Board of Appeals

We need an additional person to complete the Planning Board of Appeals. Gretchen Hanchett suggested Donald Baker. W. Skinner will try to contact him.

*Other:* Special Guest

Linda Pruski gave an informative update on the development of the new AC SPCA, which is slated to open officially on June 1. As executive director of that organization, she discussed the real and potential impact of the facility on the State Route 19 corridor. She presented several ideas for businesses and events that would complement the new animal shelter such as pet supply store, pup-pup mini-golf, doggie wash, agility park, dog boarding, dog school, thrift store, or other retail store, picnic area, restaurant, and outdoor movie nights, read-to-cats program, etc. She also discussed the importance of building good relationships with the neighbors along the SR 19 corridor to garner support and discuss ways to promote these businesses/projects in the Town of Amity.

*Next Meeting:* June 13, 2019 @ 6:30PM at Town Hall

*Motion to adjourn:* J. Maynard; seconded by J. Clouse; carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35PM

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy J. Skinner