

LIVINGSTON COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
Meeting Minutes – January 9, 2020

In attendance: C. JOAN CRUNDEN, Town of Caledonia; KEVIN FAHEY, Village of Mt. Morris; CATHIE GEHRIG, Town of Mt. Morris;; BARRY INGALSBE, Village of Lima; DON KANE, Town of Leicester; STEWART LEFFLER, Village of Geneseo, Chairman; APRILE MACK, Alternate #1; ANITA MARTUCIO, Town of Conesus; DENNIS NEENAN, Town of Lima; JILL KALMAR, Town of West Sparta; ALEX PIERCE, Town of Nunda; JARED RADESI, Town of Geneseo; KAREN ROFFE, Village of Leicester; JACK SPARLING, Town of Livonia; JOHN VAN HEUSEN, Town of Ossian; TIM BRINDUSE, Village of Dansville; DAVID LUCE, Town of North Dansville; ROBERT HAYES, Village of Avon.

Staff: HEATHER FERRERO, Deputy Planning Director; SHAWN ROONEY, Planning Assistant; MEGAN CROWE, Senior Planner; JOCELYN BISHOP, Senior Typist.

Members Excused: NONE

Members Absent: KYLE MOTT, Town of Springwater; KATE WILCOX, Town of York; CLARA MULLIGAN, Town of Avon; JOANNE PALMER, Village of Livonia.

Chairman Leffler brought the January 9, 2020, meeting of the Livingston County Planning Board to order at 7:03 p.m.

Mr. Kane led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Leffler provided an overview of New York State General Municipal Law, section 239-l, m, & n and reviewed the rules for member participation and voting.

Mr. Rooney announced the new building policy. The doors to the Government Center will lock at 8pm, rather than 10pm. Members are encouraged to use the “buddy system” when leaving the building.

Ms. Ferrero mentioned that the main foyer to the Government Center is being remodeled in order to be able to screen all visitors upon entering the building. You may see some dust and construction in the upcoming months due to the remodel.

Chairman Leffler introduced and welcomed our guests here with us today. He asks that if anyone wishes to speak to the board to stand, state your name and address and refrain from directing any of your comments to any other members of the audience. All comments and questions should be directed towards the board.

Approval of Minutes from the December 12, 2019, County Planning Board Meeting

Chairman Leffler asked for a motion regarding the Minutes from the December 12, 2019, County Planning Board meeting.

A motion to approve the meeting minutes from December 12, 2019, was made by Mr. Van Heusen and seconded by Mr. Pierce. Ms. Kalmar and Mr. Fahey abstained. The motion carried.

Zoning Referral #2019-113, Town of Avon, Site Plan Review for a Medical Office (Applicant: UR Medicine/Noves Health)

Ms. Crowe presented the staff report. The County Planning Board discussed the following:

- If there will be sidewalks accessible for walkers to and from the medical office for safety.
- If there are any other mental health facilities within Livingston County.
 - The applicant made comments in response to the Board's inquire.
 - There is a mental health facility in the old GCC building located in the Industrial Park in Dansville, NY.
 - There are currently six mental health counselors in schools within Livingston County.

A motion to approve Zoning Referral #2019-113, with advisory and board comments was made by Mr. Neenan and seconded by Mr. Fahey. The motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Referral #2019-109, Town of Caledonia, Review of a 12-month moratorium on Large Scale Solar Energy Projects and Battery Energy Storage System Projects (Applicant: Town of Caledonia)

Mr. Rooney presented the staff report. The County Planning Board discussed the following:

- The soil quality should be well defined and recorded prior to any construction for comparison.

A motion to approve Zoning Referral #2019-109, with advisory and board comments was made by Mr. Radesi and seconded by Mr. Brinduse. Ms. Crunden abstained. The motion carried.

Zoning Referral #2019-110, Town of Avon, Site Plan and Special Use Permit Review for a 5 MW ground mounted Solar Energy System (Applicant: DG NY Solar CS LLC.)

Mr. Rooney presented the staff report. The County Planning Board discussed the following:

- Stormwater flooding needs to be considered as it has been a serious issue within the community in recent years.
 - There will be 18 inches of grass and pollinator- friendly vegetation surrounding the area in order to hopefully stop future flooding and replenish soils.
- There are concerns as to how much of the property is located on prime soil.
- If the setback from the residential properties is enough.
 - The setback from the residential property line is at the minimum setback requirement of 300 ft. Therefore, the setback distance does meet the requirement.
- Height requirement for glare protection to make sure it is sufficient.
- Whether the panels are tracking or stationary panels.
 - The panels are tracking panels with movement from sunrise to sunset, east to west.

A motion to approve Zoning Referral #2019-110, with advisory and board comments was made by Mr. Hayes and seconded by Mr. Radesi. Mr. Neenan, Mr. Leffler, and Mr. Pierce opposed. Motion carried.

Following the motion, a couple topics were discussed by the board members and staff.

- The USDA definition of prime soil vs. the applicant’s definition of prime soil.
- Ag and Markets getting involved in projects that involve prime soil.

Zoning Referral #2019-111, Town of Ossian, Review of the Solar Energy Systems Law (Applicant: Town of Ossian)

Mr. Rooney presented the staff report. The County Planning Board discussed the following:

- Concerns that the authority given to the Code Enforcement Officer may be subjective in regards to abandonment, removal and soil remediation.
- Recommends a review of a bond requirement.

A motion to approve Zoning Referral #2019-111, with advisory and board comments was made by Ms. Crunden and seconded by Mr. Ingalsbe. Mr. Brinduse opposed. Mr. Van Heusen abstained.
The motion carried.

Local Announcements

- “Geneseo Active Transportation Plan” in the Town and Village of Geneseo. The plan addresses sidewalks gaps, additional multi-use paths and an additional connection to the Genesee Valley Greenway. There is a recommendation about connecting to the greenway at The National Warplane Museum at the end of Big Tree Lane. Meeting scheduled with the property owners on January 10, 2020. The project will terminate in the middle to end of February.
- Broadband Internet Survey- Broadband is a priority for the County. The County is looking to get input from residents on who they have for internet, their internet speed and their location to determine where the known areas of deficiencies.
- Housing Needs Assessment- Livingston County and its partners are developing a countywide housing needs assessment and market study to address current and future housing needs. The Housing Needs Assessment will be an analysis of the existing and prospective housing market, reflect current demographic and economic trends, and include strategies for addressing current and future housing needs in all 17 towns and 9 villages within the County. This project terminates in the middle of February.

Other Business

- Communications:
 - Broadband Internet Survey closes January 31, 2020.

The next County Planning Board meeting will be held on February 13, 2020.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Fahey and seconded by Mr. Van Heusen.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, C. Joan Crunden, Secretary

Recorded by Jocelyn Bishop, Senior Typist