

**TOWN OF ARIETTA PLANNING BOARD**  
**Piseco, NY 12139**

Meeting Dated: Tuesday October 10, 2023 – 5:00 P.M.  
Piseco School

**Meeting Minutes**

**Members present:**

Eric Greiner  
Mary Kiewicz  
Ken Kull  
Bob Thomson  
Secretary Marie Buanno

**Members absent:**

Sheila Crouse  
Zoning Officer Mel LaScola

Others present: Kent Drake-Deese, Jim Colton, John Boyer

Bob Thomson made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 12, 2023 meeting as written. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken Kull. The vote in favor was 3 – 0. Eric Greiner could not vote as he was not physically present at this meeting (by telephone).

Mary noted she received notifications from the County Clerk that a map was filed concerning lands of Stacey Reyes, Sara Allison and Donald Allison and a map concerning the lands of Risley. Neither map contained the Planning Board stamp. Copies of those notices are filed with these minutes.

Having no pertinent business to address, Kent Drake-Deese approached the Planning Board with questions pertaining on a proposed subdivision he is planning. His 3.1 acre property is at 133 Point Road. Friends of his asked to buy part of his property. He seemed to think it originally was two parcels but it does not indicate that on the deed. It is one parcel. With 3.1 acres he would not be creating a substandard lot. Each parcel will need to be 1.3 acres. Mary asked if the second parcel would need a right of way for a driveway. Mr. Drake-Deese said there is an original driveway that they would use. There are over 200 feet of shoreline. It was understood that each parcel will need to have 100 feet each. The only map available from the County Clerk was from August 23, 1937. Mr. Drake-Deese will first need to apply for a JIF from the APA. The application is on the APA website. He obviously will need to get a new survey map done noting where the well and septic will be located on each parcel for setback purposes. He will need to submit an application to the Town for a subdivision which will involve notifying his neighbors within 500 feet. The Planning Board will schedule a public hearing. If everything is done, it might be fit into the November meeting. He thinks the only holdup will be the neighbors tennis court which juts into his parcel.

Eric Greiner and Ken Kull went to Planning Board training sessions in Old Forge and felt it was worthwhile although it was a little redundant. Mary suggested they go to County Government Day. It is more specific to our area and is usually held in April.

Mary was asked about signage again concerning two realtor's signs on the Scott Pierce property on Powley Road. She wonders if there may be a way to allow for an exception or leeway in the sign law. With us not having a Zoning Officer due to Mel LaScolas leave of absence, it is kind of at a standstill. Mary did not have a chance to talk to him before he left. She just wanted to note that the laws need to be fair to all. Ken noted the APA states a sign less than 2 square feet is not a sign at all. i.e. – office, parking, entrance, exit or any sign giving direction.

Eric asked why we have so many zones (over 100). Most towns do not have so many. John Boyer said years ago, consultants (our forefathers who were realtors, contractors, etc.) had businesses out of their homes agreed to those zones. Zones were created to accommodate. Mary noted at one point discussion was held to combine zones but the Town did not want to spend the funds to hire a consultant which is very costly. She also feels the Subdivision book needs updating. It is from 1981 and the only help received so far was that the APA put it in PDF form. This is something she had hoped to accomplish but one person cannot do it and it takes time and funds.

Mary noted Joyce Page has the updated pages for the Town of Arietta codes book as the Department of State has approved the zoning changes concerning the “Stump Dump” use. This change has taken about a year.

Openings on the Planning Board will be happening as Mary Kiewicz is retiring and Bob Thomson has decided to resign. Both are effective at the end of 2023. It was noted the Planning Board members need to be full time residents. Jim Colton is being considered. It was unclear about Sheila Crouse continuing as she seems to have conflicts with the meeting dates.

Eric Greiner asked about having Zoom meetings whereas participants could vote. Mary said the permission to do Zoom would have to be approved and advertised per meeting. It is unclear if this could be a regular thing or if the Town would approve it. The NYS pandemic allowance for Zoom meetings expired.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ken Kull. Seconded by Bob Thomson. All were in favor 4 – 0.

Our next meeting will be November 14, 2023.

Respectfully submitted, Marie C. Buanno

There are 2 attachments to these minutes: County Clerk notifications re: Reyes/Allison and Risley maps.

DRAFT