

Town of Richford Planning Board

MINUTES – June 4 2014

PRESENT – Charlie Davis, Emilie Stuhlmiller, John Schwartz, Victoria Nuzzo, Chuck Merrill
EXCUSED - Bill Stell,
ABSENT – Kim Stanford,

Meeting started at 7:09 pm.

Chuck Merrill was sworn in as a member of the Planning Board and signed the oath book. His term is 2014 - 2018

Reviewed the May minutes. Stuhlmiller moved and Schwartz seconded to accept the May 7 minutes as amended. Unanimously approved. Merrill moved and Nuzzo seconded to accept the May 21 minutes. Unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion about the Comprehensive Plan survey. The surveys were mailed June 3, and 29 responses have been received to date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Schwartz reported on a 'zombie property law' proposed by NYS Attorney General Eric Schneiderman to provide relief to local communities for dealing with abandoned properties. This may be relevant for certain properties in Richford.

Schwartz inquired what the Holcomb motorcycle event cost the Town in road maintenance? He noted that there was considerable car traffic at the event, and cars and trucks parked on the side of Victory Hill Road – this turned the actual road into a one-lane wide road, and it would be impossible for an emergency vehicle to access the site if needed. These concerns will be presented at the Town Board meeting.

Discussion about the Road Protection Law and the need for a Road Maintenance Plan. Caroline and other Towns have contracted with Delta Engineering for their Road Protection Plans. This remains the preferred option for Richford, but at this time the Town Board does not want to pursue that option.

Schwartz stated that NTNN has been in discussion with the Town Board to develop a hiking/biking trail in Rawley Park, and that there are potential grant monies available to help with this.

Davis will send Merrill the Planning Board training modules provided by Tioga County Planning Department.

Discussion of what activities the Planning Board should take in addition to updating the Comprehensive Plan. Schwartz mentioned that the most recent revision of the Flood Maps will be available soon: the Planning Board should review this and determine if any activity is warranted.

The headwaters of the east branch of Owego Creek is in the expansive wetland near Harford; this feeds the local aquifer that provides drinking water for Richford. It is important for the Town to consider how to protect this resource.

Nuzzo moved and Schwartz seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Unanimously approved.
Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.