

**PLANNING COMMISSION
HYBRID PUBLIC HEARING
SOUTHAMPTON VILLAGE
FEBRUARY 3, 2022**

Due notice having been given the public hearing of the Planning Commission for the Village of Southampton was held on Thursday, February 3, 2022, at 5:30PM as hybrid via video conferencing and in Village Hall, 23 Main Street, Southampton, New York. Pursuant to Executive Order 202.1 adopted by the Governor of New York on March 12, 2020. Article 7 of the Public Officers Law (Open Meetings Law), is suspended “to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such action authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the opportunity to view or listen to such proceedings and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed.

Chair opened the meeting.

Present were Co-Chair Marc Chiffert
Co-Chair Michelangelo Lieberman
Pamela Gilmartin
Laura Devinney
Edoardo Simioni
Christian Picot (joined later)

Absent were Michael Anderson
Robert Essay
Summer Stelling

Pledge of Allegiance was held.

MINUTES ADOPTION

MOTION by Chair, second P. Gilmartin
To approve the minutes of the January Planning Commission public hearings.
On Vote: Chair, M. Lieberman, P. Gilmartin, L. Devinney, and E. Simioni.

TASK FORCE ASSIGNMENTS

Property/Real Estate Task Force: Review possible acquisition and disposition of properties with the Village
Michael Anderson, Leader
Marc Chiffert
Pamela Gilmartin

Trees and Environmental Task Force: Review of Village to join/participate in Tree City USA, sponsored by Arbor Day Foundation
Michelangelo Lieberman, Leader
Christian Picot

Michael Anderson

Laura Devinney expressed her desire to be part of this task force.

There is a resolution regarding adoption of NY Stretch Code for the Village before the Trustees.

Urban Sustainable Mobility Initiative Task Force: Review possible Village partnership with mobility companies to create sustainable mobility within the Village.

Marc Chiffert

Bob Essay

Eduardo Simioni

Summer Stelling

Senior Center/Club Task Force: Study possibility of creating a Village Senior Center or Senior Club at the Veterans Hall.

Median age in SH is fifty-six years old, so it is appropriate to service the aging population in the Village.

P. Gilmartin clarified that there was a past committee that covered seniors, however, it is no more. So that is what they are trying to restart. L. Devinney stated they will attempt to meet with the Mayor and present their outline and will follow up with the Commission regarding that meeting.

Laura Devinney, Leader

Pamela Gilmartin

Summer Stelling

SPECIAL PROJECT TASK FORCE

Study the feasibility of the use of electric landscaping equipment. Perhaps, have a presentation by equipment manufacturer.

There is a resolution regarding the use of electric leaf blowers, Trustee Joseph McLoughlin will follow up with the Commission.

SPECIAL GUEST PRESENTATION BY VILLAGE CLERK CATHY SWEENEY

Rescheduled for March 8th meeting, she will address record keeping including the continuing education requirements of staff and Board members, and cyber security of the Village.

C. Picot joined the meeting.

PRESENTATION BY JEREMY LYNCH FROM BIRD

Jeremy Lynch, from Bird, shared a 9-slide presentation regarding Bird.

- Bird is a micro-mobility company focusing on shared electric vehicles, specifically for the Village, scooters. The top speed is fifteen mph. Their purpose is to get people out of cars for short and quick trips. They are currently in 350 cities, and they opened up to 170 cities in the last year. Their focus is to launch on smaller scale in smaller communities.

- They are perfect for quick trips, to get to or from school or work. They do not need to worry about reparking, they can connect to transit or go one way.
- All app based; users are required to sign a user agreement. Must be 18 year of age, have a debit or credit card. They provide an education tutorial. They also provide a set of customized local community rules.
- Their scooters are dockless but not allowed on sidewalks. There is freedom to choose to pick up and drop off. They can be available for designated use zones. The vehicle waits for next rider or is moved by Bird management. It is a dollar to get on and .49 per minute thereafter, most rides are between 6-8 dollars per ride. They offer discounts for veterans, seniors, and public assistance.
- Geo-Zone tech is used, and they track the scooters by GPS, Geo-Zone. Vehicles will slow down or stop in no use zones and riders are notified by a vehicle sound and in app notification . Vehicles follow set rules when rides enter geo-zone. An operating map could include LIRR station, local bus stop, Coopers Beach, Agawam, Southampton Inn and local hotels and restaurants. There are boundaries and no ride zones, the Village center would be off limits. Pedal share app can be linked to Bird, they can go to bikes instead of scooters. The rules that apply to bikes can be applied to scooters
- They manage the fleet using a fleet manager, such as Rotations Bicycle Center, since they have infrastructure for use. They are given a small fleet and because local they can manage problems or complaints. Zero debt is incurred, there is no need to buy vehicles, and no cost to leave the program. They tightly regulate the fleet operation, develop features such as “Ride Ready” to ensure compliance with local regulations. Fleet Manager makes sure that scooters are located for use and move them around based on need.
- Village has access to data from scooters themselves, it gives valuable community information to know where to locate scooters. Eliminates scooters put in unnecessary areas.
- Their proposal to the Village included no investment, dedicated account manager, fifty vehicles to fleet manager, however, only about 2/3 would be out on any given peak day. There would be a specific operation zone. They would be looking for Spring launch, approval documentation MOU.

M. Lieberman asked if there is a dock to dock that can be considered; J. Lynch noted that they are working on a nest model. That may be more appealing to the Village. M. Lieberman also asked about the number of scooters, can it be less than 50. J. Lynch noted that fifty is the order initially, however, they start off with 10 or 15 and put out if usage is there. They will be able to see how many rides there are per day. Rotations is just a possibility as fleet manager, they have not begun speaking to them at this time. Chair Chiffert asked if equipment is two or three wheel; they only have two-wheel vehicles.

C. Picot asked about liability; they indemnify the Town/Village, the insurance for their riders are covered as long as users comply with the agreement they have to sign. They have liability limits, and they can forward that to the Commission.

E. Simioni noted how much should be allowed in center because of density, bikes are not permitted in the Village center; the Geo-Zone would limit that. Issue with bikes is because of the parking, and it is unsafe for bicycles.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW SENIOR PLANNER ALEX WALLACH

Senior Planner, Alex Wallach, was present. He has joined Village as new senior planner and is coming from Suffolk County Board of Economic Planning. His role will be coordinating between applicants, land use Boards and representing the Building Department at those meetings. He will be in touch about planning efforts, he hopes to support the Commission in their mission. He will liaise between all Boards planning related, so he will work with Commission.

Chair reviewed members of the Building Department. A. Wallach noted that he is looking forward to working with the Building Department and Boards.

QUESTIONNAIRE ON VILLAGE WEBSITE AS PROPOSED BY TRUSTEE GINA ARRESTA

Chair circulated results of questionnaire for Master Plan. The survey was approximately two hundred respondents. There are 3200 registered voters in the Village. The survey/questionnaire results are located on the Village website and an email that was circulated to Commission members.

UPDATE ON SENIOR COMMITTEE

Update at next meeting on the senior center.

MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES ON VILLAGE NEWS/DEVELOPMENTS

Review possibility for the Village Building Department to accept the Town issued Home Improvement contractor licensing, instead of Suffolk County only. The Town has a license and review Board, and they keep their eye on the contractors

MOTION by Chair, second E. Simioni

To adjourn the meeting.

On Vote: Co-Chair Chiffert, Co-Chair Lieberman, C. Picot, L. Devinney, E. Simioni, and P. Gilmartin.

Respectfully Submitted by:

JoLee Sanchez

File Date: _____

Village Clerk