

**PLANNING COMMISSION
HYBRID PUBLIC HEARING
SOUTHAMPTON VILLAGE
APRIL 7, 2022**

Due notice having been given the public hearing of the Planning Commission for the Village of Southampton was held on Thursday, April 7, 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 April 7, 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
Michael Anderson
Christian Picot
Laura Devinney, arrived late

Absent were Robert Essay
Summer Stelling
Edoardo Simioni

Alex Wallach, Village Planning Director, was in attendance as well.

Pledge of Allegiance was held.

MINUTES ADOPTION

MOTION by

To approve the minutes of the February Planning Commission public hearings.

On Vote: Chair, M. Anderson, P. Gilmartin, M. Lieberman and C. Picot

PROPOSED RENTAL LAW

Board of Trustees have a proposed rental law that is being rewritten. It is in compliance with NYS rules and codes and is moving forward. They are being kept abreast from Board of Trustees.

TASK FORCE ASSIGNMENT UPDATES

Property/Real Estate Task Force:

Michael Anderson, Leader
Marc Chiffert

Pamela Gilmartin

Chair shared work on a map that is being developed and contains properties owned by Village, Town, Suffolk County, Long Island Power Authority and LIRR. Properties are being investigated for potential acquisition. M. Anderson noted that he and P. Gilmartin spoke about possible acquisitions on Moses Lane. When she returns, she will go and find out who owns the properties. The corner of Elm Street and Hampton Road was discussed, and possibly the old post office and parcel neighboring on Nugent Street.

Wallach stated that there is an application for the old post office. They will welcome public involvement in that process on the Planning Board. C. Picot inquired the status on the Hampton Road and Flying Point Road parcel, A. Wallach stated that there is no formal application has been made, however, there is interest, so they are taking a look at what the code allows.

Laura Devinney joined the meeting.

Chair will circulate map to the Commission members. M. Anderson noted that the Mayor will have to speak to LIPA. L. Devinney stated that there was an issue when LIPA was expanding, and they made promises about landscaping and barriers for the parcel and that has not happened. This is an issue for something that is part of an agreement for them to perform. It is essentially a parking lot, and it is visible and not per their agreement.

Trees and Environmental Task Force:

Michelangelo Lieberman, Leader
Christian Picot
Michael Anderson
Laura Devinney

C. Picot presented the reasons why tree management is so important.

- Urban forest reduces energy costs
- Alleviates heat stress
- Cleans the air
- Removes carbon dioxide
- Reduces pollution entering waterways
- Raises property values
- Makes streets more walkable
- More successful business district
- Preserves wildlife habitat

It is relevant to have a tree management plan that addresses:

- Public Works to provide any existing internal or consultant policies and procedures for Village tree management
- Need a current inventory, that includes age, species, condition, clusters
- Pests and disease identification
- Management approaches and practices

- Budget evolution to identify, write and submit grants to NYSDEC and others,
- Discuss current Village Code and update recommendations
- Discuss protection of heritage trees on private property.

Tree City USA requires recognition of Arbor Day for membership, there will be a resolution to recognize the 29th as Arbor Day, they also need to form a functioning tree commission or Board and have a tree care ordinance. There is going to be a portion in the Master Plan pertaining to a tree ordinance. Tree City USA wants their member to have a minimum of \$2/capita spent on trees, a figure easily exceeded by the Village. Membership is an annual process. A. Wallach noted that he can get the process rolling with Tree City USA, C. Picot can work with him on that process. There is a lot of work even to prepare for the application process.

Village of Greenport and Brookhaven are with Tree City USA. M. Lieberman noted it is a one sheet brochure for tree management plan. Trustees will have to be involved as well. They met with the Mayor; this is a priority with him. L. Devinney is curious is just curious about the efficacy in Greenport and Huntington.

C. Picot noted that they need to get historical knowledge of what went on in 2019 for tree maintenance, it went nowhere at the time, it would be useful to learn why it didn't work. Chair will do research on what happened with the tree management plan in 2019. L. Devinney asked if there are trees that are marked on survey, she feels like it is interesting. Historical types of trees were used as markers for some properties but are not generally added to surveys. R. Coburn, audience member, noted that there is a concierge from the National Arbor Day foundation who may be helpful in the process. L. Devinney is concerned about trees cut down on properties for septic or other reasons. R. Coburn noted that the Health Department indicates where to place the septic, or acceptable placement areas.

Stretch Code will be discussed next meeting.

Leaf blowers concerns had a public hearing and there was both support and opposition, so the Trustees will rework proposed code from feedback. Chair noted that the Town has adopted a leaf blower code. M. Anderson noted that it was a summer provision only.

Urban Sustainable Mobility Initiative Task Force:

Marc Chiffert
 Bob Essay
 Eduardo Simioni
 Summer Stelling

Planning to have someone speak at next meeting about ride share and other initiatives to help with transportation.

Senior Center/Club Task Force:

Laura Devinney, Leader
 Pamela Gilmartin
 Summer Stelling

P. Gilmartin is still in North Carolina, nothing to report right now. L. Devinney stated that she spoke with Judy Johnson who is on the website as over Senior Services. L. Devinney asked for data and there is not any, no current accurate data is available. She went to the library since they do senior programming and sat with Liz Burns, and they were going to go through their data for references. But they were not able to provide the needed data. They are in a position to go to the historical museum, but privacy is an issue. She will try to speak to Tom Emmons at the Historical museum and formulate a working committee. Chair offered to help in that regard as well. It would be a great addition to the Village, there is a large senior community, and they participate in programs locally. R. Coburn noted that the Episcopal Church may be able to help, it is a private outreach, as well as the African American Museum.

DISCUSSION AND UPDATE FROM VILLAGE PLANNER ALEX WALLACH

Senior Planner, Alex Wallach, updated on Village Master Plan. A Community Open House was held, and the community participation was strong, and ideas were exchanged, and they were all written down. The planners are taking the input and incorporating into discussion on Master Plan. L. Devinney asked how many attended, approximately 50-60 people and trended older, but a good cross section of the community. The meeting is on the Village website.

There is a training session on May 17th in Huntington that will fulfill the 4-hour requirement for training for Board members. However, the Commission does not have that requirement.

Chair Chiffert also added that at the Community Open House there was a rep of Robert Stone Associates that was retained by Southampton Hospital for redevelopment of their site, however, there was another postponement of hospital construction, so it may be a bit in the future still.

Next meeting will be May 5, 2022.

MOTION by Chair, second M. Lieberman

To adjourn the meeting.

On Vote: Chair Chiffert, M. Anderson, L. Devinney, P. Gilmartin, M. Lieberman and C. Picot

Respectfully Submitted by:

JoLee Sanchez

File Date: _____

Village Clerk