

Edmeston Planning Board meeting September 21, 2011

Members present: Sharon Mumbulo, Sylvia Cheseboro, Richard Wayman and Alice Quintin
Absent, Elearnor Vibbard. Guest: Peggy Ross

Comment: Peggy made comment that minutes of all town meetings should be on internet site and all personnel listed with their term expirations.

Business: Sharon presented a letter from Alfred Turner's lawyer saying Mr. Turner wants to buy adjoining property of about 4 acres belonging to Beatrice Ciotoli. This is vacant acreage which Mr. Turner intends to leave vacant as a buffer for his property. Motion to approve Mr. Turner's proposal was made, seconded and agreed.

Sharon brought up the comment from Brookfield Town Supervisor made at the Pathfinder meeting sponsored by Concerned Citizens of Burlington concerning Marcellus Shale drilling. The Supervisor asked all area towns to update their regulations to accommodate the new situation involving fracking for oil. Sylvia presented a folder Mr. Dutcher had given her containing suggested changes to zoning ordinances which came from John Parker and had been part of the Planning Board business several years ago. Sylvia made the motion to wait to work on this until after our training meeting Oct. 1st. Alice seconded. Board agreed to study ideas for changes and issues of fracking and meet at usual date, 3rd. Weds. of Oct. (the 19th) There was discussion of how long since Planning Board had met and how membership is decided. Also that one of the biggest issues of concern at the Pathfinder meeting had been roads and we were told the Highway Supervisor and Mr. Dutcher were looking into this issue. Concern was expressed about the impact on roads located in different counties which do not receive tax revenues from the industry which uses them, for example the yogurt plant in South Edmeston.

Discussion of training classes being offered Oct. 1st at Mohawk Valley Community College sponsored by Herkimer-Oneida Counties. Mr. Dutcher wants us to attend "Planning Board Basics" and "Public Meeting and Hearings". There is also a class on Marcellus Shale options. The town will pay for the classes when presented with our requests.

Copies of the suggested changes to zoning regulations were distributed for our individual study.

Richard Wayman went to Pa. To fairgrounds specifically to speak with individuals and business people about the Marcellus Shale industry impact there. He found most were happy with the situation. He spoke with John Beavers, well driller involved with the "contamination" problem and told the other side of the story..ie those wells supposedly contaminated had previous problems and still were well paid for any problems they may have experienced with the oil companies activities.

Meeting adjourned 8:15pm Submitted by Alice Quintin

