



TOWN OF COLONIE

347 OLD NISKAYUNA ROAD

LATHAM, N.Y. 12110



Town of Colonie Conservation Advisory Council Meeting Minutes – October 15, 2015

Attendees: Bob Ulrich, chairman and members Don Allard, Mike Brennan, Sudhir Kulkarni, and Ellen Rosano.

Previous minutes of October 1, 2015 were approved by member Kulkarni and seconded by member, Rosano.

Notes on Planning Board meeting of October 6, 2015 were provided by member Kulkarni.

The first discussed was regarding 2 vacant lots with 1 access to Boght Rd. Green Space is more than 35% but not specified. Plan is for construction on 23 lots. There would be no homeowners association. Storm water basin in lower corner with a provision for a pump station on the North side. The developers state they are going to avoid wetlands. Chairman Stuto recommended tree screening buffer between property and neighbors.

The second issue was regarding Mini-Mart at 1175 Central Ave, former site of Ace Hardware store. Now 27% Green Space will improve to 60%, due to reduction in building area. It was suggested to reduce parking spaces from 50 shown. It was also recommended that a buffer be added protecting adjoining residential area.

Chairman, Ulrich, discussed an upcoming Albany-Schenectady County CAC Roundtable to be held Tuesday November 10, 2015 6:30 – 8:30 pm at Albany Pine Bush Preserve Discovery Ctr.

There was some further discussion of the role of the TOC CAC carried over from previous meeting.

Member, Allard, reminded members to send or resend approved meeting minutes to Tori at Planning & Development office dating back to April of 2015.

Chairman Ulrich reminded members to bring in drafts of letter to be directed to the TOC Land Use Committee on any specific issues that we believe the Land Use Committee should take up for consideration.

Some ideas so far:

- 1) Tag all trees of certain diameter 12" and greater or 18" and greater that are of significant species and add to the character of the landscape so that the Planning Board knows of trees locations and can make suggestions to developers to alter plans when appropriate.
- 2) Encourage TOC Planning Board and TOC Dept of Economic Development to speak to developers regarding the economic benefits of keeping older and larger trees in their plans, and altering the plans when appropriate.
- 3) In addition to % of green space, maintain a % of property that is "native" to maintain the ecology of the area.
- 4) Encourage natural areas to adjoin natural areas of other properties thus maintaining natural "corridors".
- 5) Increase the width of non-development on streams to 100' on either side, from center of stream.

A motion to close the meeting was made and approved by member, Kulkarni and seconded by member, Rosano.