

**MINUTES**  
**Town of Essex Planning Board**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**May 19, 2016**  
**7:02 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Van Hoven called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Attendance**

Present: James Van Hoven, Olive Alexander, Thomas Stransky, David Hislop, Derrick Wrisley, Mark Walker  
Catherine DeWolff, Secretary

Absent: Jonathan Pribble (excused)

Also Present: Jani Spurgeon, Lou Comeau, Doug Rock, Jamie Phillips

**Review and Acceptance of Minutes of April 21, 2016**

On a motion to accept the minutes of April 21, 2016 by Mr. Stransky, seconded by Mrs. Alexander, the motion carried by majority consent of the Board, Aye-6 No-0 Absent-1

**New Business**

**Tax Map #48.04-1-7 – Spirit Sanctuary – Minor Subdivision** of 3 acre for private “green” cemetery to be located on private lands owned by the Eddy Foundation on Cook Road, Essex, NY.

Chairman Van Hoven advised the Board that we now have a survey and it includes 7.24 acres. However, the subdivision is only supposed to be 3 acres or less as stated in the application. The Chair advised the applicant, Jamie Phillips, that the survey he presented needs to be further subdivided to delineate the actual 3 acres that will be used for the private cemetery. Once we have that, we can proceed. The application was tabled until the next meeting of the Planning Board in June.

Chairman Van Hoven introduced Doug Rock, the Town of Willsboro Code Enforcement Officer, that the Town of Essex is now pleased to have on board as a shared service with the Town of Willsboro. Mr. Stransky asked what the protocol shall be in contacting the Codes Officer. The Chair advised the member that the protocol shall be to contact Cathy and myself and we will contact Doug.

**Old Business**

**Draft Permit – Spurgeon – Site Plan Review** for a short 3’ picket fence with three flat top Trellises at 2291 Main Street, Essex, NY.

On a motion to approve the draft permit as written by Mr. Stransky, seconded by Mr. Hislop, the motion is on the table for discussion. Mr. Walker said that it might come back on us that the trellises are too high. There was a discussion of the fence rule. The applicant, Jani Spurgeon responded to the discussion by saying that their house was built in 1901 and that the design for the fence and the trellises was carefully planned to recreate that era.

The motion carries to approve the permit by majority vote: Aye-6 No-0 Absent-1

### **Topics for Consideration**

Air B and B's - The Board discussed the Air B and B's with no resolution.

A-Frame signs – The Board discussed the A frame signs that are now popping up all over the downtown area. There was also a discussion of possibly changing the ordinance to allow this type of sign. However, that would have to come from the Town Board. There was no resolution of the A frame sign issue.

### **Chairman's Report**

Chairman Van Hoven asked the secretary for a copy of the Zoning Law. After reading through the sign law, he advised the Board that they should take a look at the sign law which encompasses several pages in the Zoning Law. We will bring this back for discussion at the next meeting. The sign law is at section 4.28.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Adjourn**

On a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Stransky, seconded by Mr. Hislop, the meeting is adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Catherine DeWolff  
Secretary