Town of Voluntown

**Planning & Zoning Commission**

**Voluntown Town Hall**

**Wednesday January 9, 2019**

**Meeting Minutes**

**APPROVED**

**Chairman Scott Davidson called the meeting to order at 7:00PM**

**Members Present:** Scott Davidson, Carl Grenier, David Neminen, Tom Sweet, Bob Panko (Alternate) and Marc Ledoux Sr. (Alternate). Marc arrived to meeting at 7:20PM. Also present was ZEO Pete Zvingilas who arrived at 7:05pm

**Seating of Alternates:** Chairman Davidson seated Alternate Bob Panko as a full voting member.

Approval of 11/14/18 minutes: Moving to end, no one has a copy.

**Additions to Agenda:** Recreation Commission Application 010918.

Carl Grenier made a motion to add the Recreation Commission application under new business. David Nieminen seconded the motion. All in favor.

**New Business:** Voluntown Recreation Commission Application 010919. Put on hold until ZEO Pete Zvingilas arrives at meeting.

**Discussion Regulation 9.5.2-**Selectman sent P&Z Commission a letter that stated the removal of the alcohol ordinances. Selectman requested that the Commission remove anything in our regs that deals with those ordinances. Alcohol is mentioned in Reg 9.5.2. Per Jim Larkin, the reg does not refer to the actual ordinances. If our reg referred to the ordinace, the ordinance would super cede the reg.

Chairman Davidson stated that the P&Z Regs will be reviewed/rewritten once the Plan of Conservation and Development was completed. January 2020 is the tentative time for that. Chairman Davidson let the audience of citizens know that an application could be submitted requesting the text amendment change and go through the steps (public hearing, notices in paper) to have 9.5.2 addressed earlier.

If the application isn’t handed in, it would cost the Commission about $1,000 to address it themselves. Same time line would apply. Chairman Davidson stated at this time the Commission will not address Reg 9.5.2.

David Nieminen made a motion to close the Discussion of Regulation 9.5.2. Tom Sweet seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion approved. The discussion was closed at 7:13pm.

Minutes will be moved until the end of the meeting. Copies became available.

**New Business Continued:** Site plan approval application 010819 Recreation Commission. Chairman Mike Kalwara presented the application to basically have the Rec Commission purchase a portable 8x20 Connex box to store the Rec Commission supplies that are currently in the Town Hall Basement, town garage and members’ homes. Per ZEO Pete Zvingilas it would be considered an accessory structure.

Carl Grenier made a motion to approve Application 010918 Voluntown Recreation Commission for site plan approval/ Accessory structure behind the town garage. Bob Panko seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Citizens Comments**

James Anderson 63 Gate Street, Voluntown expressed how frustrating the whole process of getting his potential business of a brewery approved and up and running. Chairman Davidson again said that he could submit an application for a text amendment change. He also stated that a text amendment for this property was done last year and the reg was rewritten to accommodate the applicants applying to add a 4th Apt. at the same property.

Again Chairman Davidson went through the steps of submitting an application for text amendment change. Commission is open at any time to accept an application. Tammy Daigneault spoke about the ordinance and the reg with several examples of them not making sense. Presented google map of Historic District and continued discussing the reg change that is needed. Asked if the P& Z Commission could rewrite the regulations during the POCD project. Chairman Davidson again stated that this will not happen. Regs will be reviewed/rewritten after the completion of the POCD. January 2020. She continued to site examples of other businesses. Several discussions going on at the 44 minute point in the recording. Chairman Davidson said that the Commission would reach out to the town attorney. Citizens comments were closed at 7:51pm.

**ZEO Report:** Complaint Brown Road about millings on the road causing issues. All cease and desist reports in P&Z mailbox have been addressed.

**Correspondence:** Education materials

**Election of Officers for 2019**

David Nieminen made a motion nominate the current Chairman Scott Davidson for Chairman. Tom Sweet seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Davidson made a motion to nominate David Nieminen for Co-Chairman. Tom Sweet seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Tom Sweet made a motion to nominate Carl Grenier for Secretary. Chairman Davidson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes 11/14/2018:** Bob Panko made a motion to accept the 11/14/2018 minutes as written. Carl seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**: Tom Sweet made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00PM. Chairman Davidson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Scott Davidson, Chairman**

**Kerry Tetreault, Recording Secretary**