**Town of Voluntown**

**Planning & Zoning Commission**

**Meeting Minutes**

**May 8, 2019**

**Unapproved**

Chairman Scott Davidson call the regularly scheduled meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission to order at 7:00pm.

**Members present:** Scott Davidson, Marc Ledoux, David Nieminen, Carl Grenier, Max Hallowell & Tom Sweet. Also present 1st Selectman Tracey Hanson, Town Attorney Michael Carey and Jim Larkin.

**Seating of alternates:** Chairman Davidson seated alternate Marc Ledoux as a full voting member.

**Approval of Minutes March 13, 2019:** Carl Grenier made a motion to accept the minutes as written. David Nieminen seconded the motion. All in favor motion carried.

**Additions to Agenda:** NONE

**PUBLIC HEARING** was opened at 7:04pm Application 031319 Zoning Text Amendment proposed by Leanne Church and James Anderson to add 2.35 and 5.2.12 to make “Beer and Brew Pubs” a use permitted by special exception in the Village District Zone and to delete drive in eating establishments and any eating establishment which serves alcohol from the minimum distance requirements of regulation 9.5.2

Applicants began to discuss the details of the proposed amendment changes to the Commission and audience of citizens. During this time, Member Carl Grenier and Attorney Mike Carey were in quiet discussion. Chairman Davidson asked if there was a problem. At this time Attorney Carey explained that Carl Grenier brought to his attention that the legals for notice of Public Hearing were incorrect the way they were published in the Norwich Bulletin on April 24th and May 1st. They did not state the new proposed definition in 2.3.5 However, the letters sent to NECCOG, SECCOG & Town of Griswold were all correct, it was just incorrect in the legal notices. Chairman Davidson apologized to the applicants and audience of citizens.

After discussion amongst the Commission, applicants and Town Attorney it was decided to hold a special meeting on Wednesday May 22, 2019 at 7pm in the meeting room at Voluntown Town Hall. It will be a continuation of the public hearing this evening. The revised notices will be posted in the Norwich Bulletin on May 11th and May 17th (2019) Attorney Carey stated the applicants can be granted an extension once they request it in writing. Ms. Church and Mr. Anderson submitted an extension request in writing to the commission.

There were some remarks from citizens in the audience regarding if an error was noticed in the legal, should that have been brought to someone’s attention prior to this public hearing? Chairman Davidson stated that it should have absolutely been brought to someone’s attention as soon as he noticed the error.

**Chairman Davidson adjourned the public hearing at 7:25 pm.**

**Old Business:** POCD Discussion. Jim Larkin handed out 1st draft of the POCD to each Commission member to review. It was discussed and decided that members would read over and be ready to discuss and propose changes at the June 12th meeting.

**ZEO Report:** ZEO Pete Zvingilas was not present at the meeting.

**General P&Z Discussion:** Budget

Brief budget discussion and what the costs will amount to for the public hearing, attorney, legal notices.

Chairman Davidson made the announcement to the commission that he will be unable to be Chairman when the next officer elections take place.

**Adjournment:**  David Nieminen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Sweet seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

***Kerry Tetreault, Recording Secretary***

***Scott Davidson, Chairman***