

## Plainfield Planning Commission Minutes

Monday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Present: Will Colgan, Jesse Cooper, Baylen Sky and Karen Storey.

### Approval of Minutes

Jesse made the motion and Karen seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting.

The motion was approved.

Will asked if there were any of the other Hyde Park definitions we could use. There were not any specific ones brought up. Karen said Berlin and East Montpelier DRB boards can allow for uses that are not specifically allowed by zoning. Will said he would ask Claire if that is a reasonable way to get items that are not explicitly listed in the zoning approved. The current understanding is that if something is not specified in the zoning ordinance then it is not allowed at all. It is difficult to anticipate all the possible uses in the future.

The PC agreed to add definition of Forestry (Hyde Park language) to the zoning to clarify the Forest Processing language that was adopted at the last meeting.

Karen brought up the parking requirements for residential apartment approval. There is not enough room for most existing residential units. As the village adds more multi-unit buildings there will most likely not have enough parking. The commercial uses are no longer required to provide parking so how does the village manage the need for parking and increased housing? The PC agreed to make the current parking be a recommendation rather than a requirement for an approved apartment. In most cases the only available parking for new units would be the Park and Ride or the Rec Field parking lot. Baylen mentioned the problems with winter sidewalks, lack of lighting and inadequate drainage as issues for pedestrian uses in the village. He said some of the intersections are a hazard to cross in bad weather or at night. He suggested the need for upgrading the sidewalks and intersections. Karen agreed that the pedestrian issues are a real deterrent for people wanting or needing to walk in the village.

Jesse said he would like to take another look at the Hyde Park standards and Will said he would see what information he had on the Village Designation and send that out along with any new information he receives about the September update.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40