

TOWN OF ARIETTA PLANNING BOARD
Piseco, NY 12139

Meeting Dated: Tuesday July 8, 2025 – 5:00 P.M. Piseco School

Meeting Minutes

Members present:

Jim Colton
Eric Greiner
Ken Kull
Zoning Officer Mel LaScola
Secretary Marie Buanno

Members absent:

Sheila Crouse
Mike Cullen

Public in attendance: Andrew Knapp Patrick Knapp Richard Wilt Carole Ruiz

Ken Kull motioned for the meeting to be brought to order, 2nd by Jim Colton. The vote in favor was 3 – 0.

Jim Colton made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 10, 2025 meeting as written. 2nd by Ken Kull. The vote in favor was 3 – 0.

Chairman Greiner indicated it was alright for Rick Wilt to address the Planning Board first. Rick was just getting clarification of the steps he needed to take in order to do a simple property line adjustment. The corner of his neighbors garage is on the property line by 5 ft. Since it is preexisting he would not have to adhere to the 15 ft. setback rule. He will need to complete a JIF through the APA and bring it all back to the Planning Board for official approval. He already has a mylar for the Planning Board to stamp.

Andrew Knapp (owner of Piseco Lake Lodge) voiced concerns about the changes the Planning Board is submitting to the Town Board concerning the sign regulations. His first concern was the minimum size for signs permitted on a 25 – 30 MPH road. He referred to the recommendation from the NYS manual on uniform traffic control and signage regulations. A 2 ft x 2 ft sign doesn't align with visibility at 25 MPH. It should be 3 ft x 3 ft with 5 inch lettering. Faster speeds go to an even larger sign. Another regulation that stood out to him was that there is to be no more than one pole or free standing sign on the business property. He wanted to understand as to why. Chairman Greiner said that was what was adopted as per APA regulations. Andrew says he wants to comply and not create conflict. He also mentioned the sign distance regulation being 200 ft. He is concerned with the sign on Route 8 that was erected years ago with his business on it although it is not on his property. He wants to know if according to the regulations he needs to replace or remove the sign after five years of depreciation. He read from what he found on the website. The board agreed the book was adopted in 2015 and the sign should be grandfathered. Andrew said according to the regulations there is no provision for grandfathering. After a little discussion it was determined he had looked up outdated regulations. The board determined that the sign would need to come down if the business closed. Under permits Andrew noted residential signs are exempt from permits and wondered why. This pertains to the naming of camps or putting family names on a sign. If a business were operating out of the home then it would need a permit. He was just here asking for clarity. He also mentioned that getting Town information on line is challenging. He is unable to find minutes. Mel gave him tips on how to navigate the website. Patrick Knapp asked about the usage of flags. Chairman Greiner said we have sent a regulation recommendation to the Town Board. The regulation allows one flag right now. The boards regulation recommendation is easing up on this regulation. Ken Kull felt they would get more attention out of a sign with all of their businesses listed on it than the flags. Andrew feels the flags are more effective. Jim Colton noted they are product specific. Jim also noted the main focus in revising the codes book has been to make it more business friendly. A lot of Andrews concerns turned out to be the language used and interpretation. It was noted that the Town Board and the APA have to approve of the changes. A public hearing will be held as well.

Hamilton County Personnel Officer Carole Ruiz addressed the Planning Board as the NYS Civil Service is requesting clarification of our purpose, titles, meeting time and other specifics. Chairman Griener said we meet collectively publicly once a month. The Planning Board makes sure the land use codes are adhered to and speak to the residents about any concerns they bring to our attention regarding setbacks, boundary line adjustments and subdivisions. Any variation to the codes are referred to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Planning Board is an appointed board. The Chairman reports to the Town Supervisor and the Town Board on behalf of the Planning Board. members. Annual four hour training is required which is provided by NYS.

Jim Colton noted that the document of changes that was submitted to the Town Board was not adequate. It was indicated that the document needs to state the current regulation, the proposed regulation changes and the justification for the changes. Jim had worked up a sample and offered to do it. We can go over it at the next meeting then present it to the

Town Board.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ken Kull. Seconded by Jim Colton. All were in favor 3 – 0.

Our next regular meeting will be August 12, 2025.

Respectfully submitted, Marie C. Buanno

There are no attachments to these minutes.

DRAFT