

TOWN OF ARIETTA PLANNING BOARD
Piseco, NY 12139

Meeting Dated: Tuesday October 14, 2025 – 5:00 P.M. Piseco School

Meeting Minutes

Members present:

Members absent:

Jim Colton

Sheila Crouse (by telephone)

Mike Cullen

Eric Greiner

Ken Kull

Zoning Officer Mel LaScola

Secretary Marie Buanno No public was in attendance.

Jim Colton motioned for the meeting to be brought to order. 2nd by Mike Cullen. The vote in favor was 4 – 0. Sheila did not vote as she was not physically present.

Ken Kull made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 9, 2025 meeting as written. 2nd by Mike Cullen. The vote in favor was 4 – 0. Sheila Crouse was by telephone for the September meeting so she did not vote.

Chairman Greiner asked Jim Colton to speak about what he came away with from the Town Board meeting of September 15th. Jim said he had thought it was agreed that most of the Planning Board members were going to attend that Town Board meeting but only he and Secretary Marie Buanno ended up attending so he was kind of put on the spot to go over the changes that were submitted and answer questions the best he could.

Town Supervisor Chris Rhodes and Highway Superintendent Craig Small were not in favor of the proposed change regarding the right-of-way for signs going from 20 ft to 10 ft. Craig did not feel that the Planning Board could change that as within the town there are town, county and state roads. He didn't think county and state could be changed. Tonight, Zoning Officer Mel LaScola also had a problem with it as he said a sign is considered a structure (according to the codes book). A structure needs to be 50 feet from a road and 75 feet from a state highway. Changing this from 20 ft to 10 ft makes no sense if signs are structures and a permit is needed. Come to find out there is a discrepancy in the codes book in the definition of a structure. The definition includes signs in it. After much discussion, it was decided that signs should be taken out of the definition for structure and presented as another change to the codes book. The word structure also needs to be removed from the definition for signs.

Jim also wanted to bring up for Fire Chief Steve Woehrle the fire departments desire to put up a Smokey the Bear sign noting the fire risk (Low, Moderate, High). Does the PVFD need a permit? Mel says yes. It is the feeling of the current Planning Board that if it is an entity that serves the community, it should not need a permit but even if it needs a variance to do so no one can see why it wouldn't get approved.

Eric Greiner got a message from Chris Rhodes saying fluttering signs needs to be addressed as to how long they can be up. It was agreed that the code should state they need to come down when the business is not open.

Another recommendation that the Planning Board wants to consider is whether to measure from the shoulder of the road or the center of the road when deciding where a sign will be placed. It seems that some signs are pretty far off the road and aren't easily seen. The whole purpose this Planning Board is working towards is to make the town more business friendly. Right now the measurement is from the shoulder.

Jim Colson will talk to Chris Rhodes and Craig Small about the distance issue and to Steve Woehrle about our feelings on the Smokey Bear sign.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Cullen. Seconded by Jim Colton. All were in favor 4 – 0. (Sheila did not vote).

Our next regular meeting will be November 11, 2025.

Respectfully submitted, Marie C. Buanno

There are no attachments to these minutes.

DRAFT