

EAST AURORA PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING

December 2, 2014

7:00 PM

PRESENT:

Dan Castle, Chairman  
Lowell Dewey, Vice Chairman  
Allen Ott Jr.  
Kristin Cameron  
Angela Griffis

ABSENT:

Stacy Oar  
Geoffrey Hintz  
Bud Babcock

Also Present:

Bill Kramer, Code Enforcement Officer  
Wendy Potter-Behling, Deputy Village Clerk & Secretary for the Planning Commission  
Allan A. Kasprzak, Mayor  
Karen Lee, 570 Fillmore

Dan Castle, Chairman opened the meeting at 7:01PM and noted that a quorum was present.  
Angela Griffis has been appointed to replace Frank Mesi Jr.

INFORMAL discussion:

RE: Village of East Aurora Comprehensive & Zoning plan

- Dan Castle was part of the Request for Proposal (RFP)
- All bids received by Village were higher than expected by \$30-40,000
- Village Board has asked PC for help and to support to do this update
- Community members as well as Village Committee members to help as well
- Village will hire legal consultant for\*\*\*\*
- To update the comprehensive plan and then will update the zoning code
- This project should start in January
- Some information can be used from the Regional Comprehensive Plan from 2004
- The vision map from the RCP can be utilized
- Dan Castle pointed out specifically Main St, Elm Street Corridor and the West End as areas to be looked at first, he does not see huge changes because of lot limitations
- Dan Castle will create a paragraph to send to committee members, a timeline/schedule, agenda and who should be involved
- Mayor Kasprzak will contact Senior Center, Library, Town Hall and/or EA Fire Hall about using them as a meeting place
- Lowell Dewey will provide aerial maps for next meeting
- Angela Griffis will copy & paste all areas from the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) that deals with the Village of East Aurora
- Karen Lee has been invited to be a part of this process
- there was a discussion on how to best use the Planning Commissions time
- Is the RCP referred to often? Bill Kramer says not so often
- A good comprehensive plan should equal good zoning and codes
- Erie County Planning could provide technical assistance with would be free of charge
- A full review of the RCP would be a good place to start and then there may not be much to update per Bill Kramer
- Tannery Brook, creeks and flooding should be reviewed
- lighting such as LED lights can be addressed through zoning

- it's good to look at the code every 10 years and to amend the code would be for clarity and enforcement
- The comprehensive plan provides information so that Village Board and Committee decisions that are made are not arbitrary
- A forum should be used for input
- Someone from the Historic Preservation Committee, Safety Committee, Chamber of Commerce, Dept of Public works, Village board, Zoning Board, Town of Aurora, Town Planning Board to start
- A public hearing in March or April
- Vision plan by June
- Design Guidelines to be put on hold
- This review may take 6-9 months
- Vacant parcels and big parcels should be reviewed and perhaps those property owners invited to a meeting to discuss the future.
- Perhaps there can be several smaller groups to meet together once a month
- perhaps get information about the traffic patterns around the plaza from GBRC
- per Dan Castle, Initial meeting with the Village Board, then get committee input, then community input

No motion was made to close the meeting as it was an informal meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Potter-Behling  
Deputy Village Clerk  
Secretary, Planning Commission