

EAST AURORA PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

April 5, 2006

7:00 PM

Present:

Dan Castle, Chairperson

Daniel Bermingham

Patrick McBurney

Code Enforcement Officer, Bill Kramer

Deputy Clerk Treasurer Joyce Jezewski

Absent: Randolph West, Lowell Dewey, MaryJo Crone, Stacy Oar

Others Present: Retired planning commission member Carol Smith

Representatives from Greater Buffalo Savings Bank (GBSB)

(Frederick Wolf, Damon & Morey, Council; James Mulka, Facilities Manager, GBSB, Paul Battaglia, Architect)

There being no quorum, the approval of the March 1, 2006 minutes were tabled until the next regular meeting of the planning commission.

Chairman Castle recognized recently retired member Carol Smith for her years of service and dedication on the planning commission. Carol Smith served on the planning commission for more than 22 years. Carol Smith was also honored by the Village Board and presented with a framed village seal. Joyce Jezewski noted that Randy West, although absent from the meeting, called to extend his well wishes to Carol on her retirement. Chairman Castle asked if Carol might consider serving as an alternate on the planning commission.

Representatives from the Greater Buffalo Savings Bank were present to informally discuss their plans to build a drive through bank and seek the advice of planning officials.

Chairman Castle explained that the role of the planning commission is advisory only and that the final decision rests with the Village Board.

Copies of the preliminary plans were distributed to those members present. At the present time, GBSB has 11 branches in the Western New York area. The plans are to demolish the building at 461 Main Street, known as the Southtowns Agency, and build a new bank. It was noted that a drive-through is an absolute necessity for a bank.

Dan Castle indicated that there will be a concern with a drive through and curb cut exiting on Main Street. The Village Board is currently considering proposed legislation banning any type of commercial drive-throughs in the Mid Main District. The intersection of Main and South Grove is already a quite busy intersection, given its close proximity to the East Aurora middle school. In fact, the intersection has failed on numerous occasions. Additionally, the GBSB needs to give due consideration to lighting, landscape and parking.

Dan Castle advised that GBSB might want to look at other alternatives for positioning the drive through.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce M. Jezewski, CMC
Deputy Clerk Treasurer