

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Village of Cooperstown was held in the Village Office, 22 Main Street, Cooperstown, New York on January 6, 2015 at 5:00 pm. Members in attendance were Chair - Susan Snell, Ruth Ayres, John Sansevere, and Marcie Schwartzman. Member Frank Leo and alternate – Ron Streek were absent. Also in attendance was Zoning Enforcement Officer – Tavis Austin and Deputy Village Clerk – Jennifer Truax. Two members of the public were present.

Ms. Snell called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Regular Agenda

8 Susquehanna Avenue (Margaret and Fred Kaplan) – Follow up regarding legal standings of the failed motion at the December 2, 2014 meeting

Ms. Schwartzman recused herself.

Ms. Snell stated that at the December 2, 2014 meeting it was indicated that the variance request could be revisited at the January meeting in the event that opinion had changed another vote could be taken. She further stated that she has spoken with Village Attorney, Martin Tillapaugh, regarding the action at the December meeting regarding the variance request at 8 Susquehanna Avenue and whether the ZBA has the right or need to take further action. She stated that the failure of the motion to grant the variance was in essence a denial of the requested variance and that the only way the ZBA can take further action would be for a member of the board who voted against the motion or a member who was not present at the meeting to make a new motion which was inherently different from the motion which failed. Ms. Snell stated that she does not feel that there is any further practical role for the ZBA and that any further action is in the hands of the Kaplans and the Board of Trustees.

Ms. Schwartzman returned to the board at 5:10 PM.

Other Business

Ms. Snell provided copies of and reviewed with the members of the board the three most recent Zoning Law amendments.

Mr. Austin explained the changes to the Tourist Accommodation law and the new annual registration process. He stated that he has mailed letters and information to all known owners of tourist accommodations and to date has had replies from three establishments.

The board discussed the online training being offered at 6 PM this evening.

Minutes

The minutes were held over until due to lack of voting members.

Meeting adjourned at 5:19 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Truax
Deputy Village Clerk