

Town of Saratoga Plan Commission

July 14, 2021

Plan Commission Members	
Chair	Dave Barth
Sarajane Snyder, Co-chair	Josh McDonald
Tom Grygo, Secretary:	Gordon Wipperfurth, Alternate

Sarajane Snyder opened the meeting of the Town of Saratoga Plan Commission at 6:30 PM on July 14, 2021, at the Saratoga Town Hall. The meeting was officially noticed.

Motion by Barth to approve the minutes of June 9, 2021, Plan Commission Meeting, second by McDonald, motion approved.

Pam Pitrowski explained the trail map she provided to the Plan Commission last week. She has proposed having four “heart signs” one each at the Saratoga end of the Nekoosa Bridge, junctions of Church Ave/CTH “Z”, Church Ave./64th Street, CTH “Z”/10 Mile Ave. She also proposed a double-sided large sign and to contact “Boz” about the sign verbiage. Wipperfurth asked is she discussed trail links with the Town of Rome; Pitrowski said she has not.

Shutter Business Permit

Shutter said they have the necessary permits and also a building permit from the Town. The early opening date is the end of August and a late date of Thanksgiving.

Motion by Barth to recommend the Town Board approve the Business Permit for Sweet Sip Coffee Company, second by Wipperfurth, motion approved.

Rome Utility

Jamie Gebert, Administrator Town of Rome, said she looks forward to working with Saratoga to coordinate bicycle trail links between the towns. She said the Town of Rome is expanding the “Town Center” and part of that expansion included looking at a waste-water utility for the Town. Lukasz Lyzwa, Project Engineer, General Engineering Company discussed project options and said he is asking for approval from the Town of Saratoga to work at planning a joint wastewater project with the Town of Rome. He said the original proposal from 2020 to send wastewater from Rome and Saratoga to Wisconsin Rapids was not approved by Wisconsin Rapids. He outlined a proposal where Port Edwards would accept wastewater from the two towns. The capacity at the Port Edwards sanitary facility is 600 thousand to 1 million gallons per day, the current input is approximately 250 thousand gallons per day. Lyzwa provided a handout explaining several options and funding. He suggested having a written agreement to hook up to the Port Edwards utility.

Fuehrer asked about funding. Lyzwa said there is no county funding, all funding options are federal.

Fuehrer also asked about Sand Valley hooking into the proposed utility. Gebert said Sand Valley has its own POWTS and would not hook into the proposed utility.

Motion by Wipperfurth to set up a workshop with the Town of Rome, the Saratoga Town Board and Plan Commission or their representatives, to further review the proposed utility options and funding, second by Barth, motion approved.

Peterson CSM

Fuehrer said the CSM does not meet the one acre minimum for a building lot or POWTS. She said it is not in the Towns' interest to approve a substandard lot.

Motion by McDonald to deny the CSM due to not meeting the one-acre requirement for a building lot, second by Barth, motion approved.

Silver Creek Trail PUD

Shane Ruesch presented an approval from DOT for access from STH 13 onto his property, a revised site plan and color 3D drawing of the proposed housing units. The new proposal shown eight units rather than the original nine with all the units facing into the property, more green space, and a curved road. Ruesch said he has arranged for garbage pick-up at each unit rather than on STH 13. The road and driveways will be concrete. The proposed road is 24' wide and will be a private road maintained by Ruesch. A discussion followed concerning trees and buffer between the development and Silver Creek Trail. Concerns were also raised about providing a cul-du-sac.

Rob Borski presented a copy of the Zoning Ordinance regarding PUD. He said it is his opinion the proposed PUD does not meet the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance and requested the Plan Commission deny the proposed PUD. Wipperfurth said Borski is presenting an emotionally charged debate and as a Plan Commission we have to meet the standards set forth in the ordinance. The Plan Commission was also reminded by an attorney for Shane Ruesch, about state statutes regarding conditional use. A discussion about subdivision ordinance and requirements followed. Public comments were also raised about safety and property values. It was agreed that Ruesch comply with all the requirements of Section 9.5 Zoning Ordinance before the Plan Commission makes a recommendation to the Town Board.

Motion by Wipperfurth to table action on the PUB application until all the requirements of Section 9.5 Zoning Ordinance are complied with including emphasis on buffering, second by McDonald, motion approved.

Solar Project assistance

Possible project discussed were:

- Electric vehicle charging station, fee based
- ATV trail around solar facility
- Off-road trails

Information from members

Wipperfurth had question about grants discussed at the SPARKS meeting. He also said Wakely is planning a visitor center

Fuehrer said she is staying on as the Zoning Administrator.

The next meeting is August 11, 2021

Motion by Wipperfurth to adjourn second by McDonald, meeting adjourned 8:45 PM