

Kenneth C. Riscica

From: Diana Merenda <diana.merenda@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2021 10:44 AM
To: Clerk VPH Marianne Lobaccaro; ken@riscica.com; Alvin Solomon; Norm Taylor
Cc: Azie Ahmad
Subject: Re: Public Hearing input re Planning Board

Please include for the public hearing which neither my husband nor I will attend. During one of my two terms as mayor, and having served on the planning board myself for one year, I completely agree with dissolving the planning board and integrating its mission into the responsibilities of the BOT. I recall that I myself attempted to get the then owners of 100 Bay Driveway to incorporate the VPH ROW adjacent to their SBL into their SBL as I was fairly certain the tax ramifications would be de minimis but my offer was rejected. As an owner of two lots myself I know it makes sense but I could not make the case compelling enough for them. There are a few other parcels here and there that are potential fits as well but again, not big enough issues or I was not persuasive enough.

In any event, regarding the currently existing planning board there just is not enough activity to warrant the expense incurred by people's training time to keep it as an independent entity. BOT can handle anything that does come up in the future.

The biggest concern I have for major parcel is of course the Fishman litigation. I keep looking at the newsletter for news about resolution but can only hope it was there and I missed it.

Thank you, the VPH staff and other trustees for the work devoted to making VPH function well.

On Thu, Jan 14, 2021 at 7:19 PM Plandome Heights <emergency@plandomeheights-ny.gov> wrote:



This is a message for residents of the Village of Plandome Heights from Mayor Kenneth C. Riscica.

NOTE: My apologies: the link the Text of the Law was inaccurate in the original transmission of this Alert. It is corrected below.

MESSAGE: On February 1, 2021, we will have a Public Hearing in order to receive input from residents.

The Board of Trustees has observed that our Planning Board rarely has matters to address. The last matter was three years ago and before that, there have only been 4 matters in 20 years. The Planning Board reviews "land use" matters. There are no active or new matters at this time.

The fact is we are a mature community with few land-use matters requiring the attention of a Planning Board. Despite this, the Village commits a full complement of 7 volunteers to that Board. Those members are required to attend 4 hours of training each year and may go a whole 5-year term without using that training. Other villages are in this situation and some use the Board of Trustees to manage such matters.

So, our Public Hearing is called to seek your input into the idea of merging the function of the Planning Board into the Board of Trustees. Our Architecture and Zoning Boards will not be affected by this change.

The Notice of the Public Hearing will be published in the Manhasset Press next week and is available to you now at [Notice of Public Hearing](#). The draft of the change to our law is also available to you now at [Text of Law](#). You can participate in the Public Hearing in several ways: (a) electronically as indicated in the Notice or (b) you can also send in

your comments by email to the Clerk by email and they will be included in the record. Of course, you can always contact me directly.

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