

DRAFT
Zoning Board of Appeals
Town of Hillsdale Special Meeting
April 19, 2016

Zoning Board Members that were present were Chairman Craig Norton, Bill Sullivan, Barbara Barrantes, Steve Smith and Attorney Nelson R. Alford. Also present were Jim Wright, Matt Downing, Kip Beacco, Martin & Christa Stosiek, Cathy Lyden ZBA Secretary, surrounding neighbors of Martin & Christa Stosiek, and other members of the public.

A Zoning Board Special Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairman Craig Norton for Jim Wright and The Oldtone Festival which continues the Public Hearing of April 5, 2016. Mr. Wright would like to get a special use permit for a Festival that he plans on making for second weekend in September, located on 35 Sir William Farm Road. The days the festival will run will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday in September. Property owner Christa Stosiek started off the meeting explaining the land and how their intention was to “give back to the community” with it. She explained to the audience that she wants to support the artistic community and this festival isn't about money but helping the community. Next Jim Wright, Matt Downing and Kip Beacco came up before the audience and discussed the type of festival and how they found Bridlewood two months ago and then came before the Zoning board to start the process of the festival. Mr. Wright explained to the audience that he is looking to support the community. The Festivals tentative dates will be September 8 thru 11. A maximum of 1100 people. 800 Camping tickets and 200 day tickets. There will be 100 volunteers/staff and about 300 to 400 cars. The discussion of designated parking followed. There will be 3 stages: 1 outdoor, 2 indoor. It will be acoustic music. The hours will be Thursday 2 pm to 10:30 cut off, Friday 12 to 10:30, Saturday 12-10:30 and Sunday 9 to 11. Around 2 pm Sunday people would be leaving. A discussion of State Agencies followed. A discussion about the emergency plan followed and was provided for the audience to see. (It was distributed.) There will be no alcohol served or allowed in festival as well as smoking on the grounds. One audience member was concerned about ticks and the safety of people. A discussion followed about other festivals (Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, Grey Fox etc.) and the how big this is compared to others. Chairman Craig Norton informed the audience that the Festival has moved from minor application to a major application per Town Attorney Nelson R. Alford Jr. This application needs to go before the Planning Board as well as a full SEQRA. Questions were asked of Mr. Wright of how this festival will help the community, if there is early camping (no), signs and postings, and when will people start showing up (5 days before/after for setup/cleanup). Neighbors of the property had issues of location for safety of traffic, it is a bad area, lots of accidents. The permit is only for 1 year and Mr. Wright has to come before the board every year. Food will be served on the grounds. The Festival is encouraging local business to sell on the grounds. A question was asked to Martin & Christa Stosiek if they would sign something that if the neighbors are unhappy they will not do this festival again. Christa Stosiek agreed and said she would sign a letter if appropriate. A motion was made by Member Steve Smith to make a resolution to classify the Oldtone application as a Major Project, seconded by Member Bill Sullivan, Carried 4(Norton, Smith, Sullivan & Barrantes). A motion was made by Member Bill Sullivan to continue the Public Hearing for the Oldtone Festival, seconded by Member Steven Smith, Carried 4 (Norton, Smith, Sullivan & Barrantes).

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Submitted By: Cathy Lyden