

**TOWN OF NILES PLANNING BOARD MEETING**  
**Niles Town Hall, New Hope, New York**  
**February 17, 2010**

**Present**        Bob Martin (chairman)  
                      Jason Cuddeback  
                      C harlie Greene  
                      Anthony Hart  
                      John Nolte  
                      Bill Stinson

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. Mr. Martin asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. The January minutes were read; a motion was made by Charlie Greene and seconded by Jason Cuddeback to accept the minutes, all approved.

Others present: Rick Slagle,

**New Business:**

- Mr. Martin reminded everyone of the upcoming meetings with Brian Kolb on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Cayuga County Planning Board**

- Bill Carmen will be the town's representative on the Cayuga County Planning Board.
- Four training workshops have been scheduled:
- April 21<sup>st</sup> Land use related to agriculture
- July 21<sup>st</sup> Planning mines and gas
- September 15<sup>th</sup> e-Cayuga
- November 17<sup>th</sup> Introduction to the Board of Appeals

**Windmills**

- Brody Smith has given us information on windmills; Charlie Greene will review and report back to the Planning Board. There is a map of wind channels.
- Complaints about windmills that have been heard are:
- "Flicker" blades create a flash of light creating a flicker, turbines can be stopped during the hours that the sunlight creates this effect.
- Noise levels vary from ambient to 35dbas.
- Set back limits have been discussed to keep a distance of one and one half times the height of the tower.

**Owasco Water Shed**

- Charlie Greene reported that there is an ongoing discussion on agriculture and water shed relationships. A meeting will be set up to provide an opportunity for both sides to be heard.

**Skaneateles Water Shed**

- Bill Stinson reported that keeping the water clean was the main topic covered.

**Geofracking**

- Rick Slagel shared information that in Cayuga County the gas straits are only 2,000 ft. below surface and for geofracking they prefer to locate gas 6-8,000 feet below the surface.
- Compaction of the soil is also a factor.
- It is predicted that with conditions in Cayuga County we will be the last to be developed.
- Information is available on the DEC web site.
- February 23<sup>rd</sup> Skaneateles High School will host at program about geofracking. Speaker will be from the college of Environmental Science and Forestry.

**Open Burning**

- Open Burning will be regulated by the DEC.
- Discussion on regulations for the Town, agriculture burning and controlled burns.

**Town of Niles Board**

- John Nolte reported that the town attorney had a wealth of information on windmills.
- Rick Slagel updated us that several avenues are being pursued to meet the Town's internet needs.

**Owasco sewer line extension**

- Terry Lattimore spoke to Rick Slagel about the proposed project.
- The Planning Board discussed the project and concurred that it would be good for the Lake.
- A sewer district would have to be established.
- Only about 15 residences would benefit.
- The Planning Board agreed that it is not feasible at this time to extend the sewer line. Lack of population in the area would not justify the cost.

A motion was made by John Nolte and seconded by Tony Hart to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM

*Respectively submitted,*

*Donna Porter*