

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Durham to discuss the proposed Mass Gathering Law held June 17, 2003 at the Town Building in Oak Hill, N.Y.

Present: Robert Young – Supervisor  
 Gary Hulbert - Councilman  
 William A. Carr, Jr. – Councilman  
 Linda Sutton – Councilwoman

Absent: Robert Elpel - Councilman

Recording Secretary: Chris Kohrs – Deputy Town Clerk  
 Others Present: Tal Rappleyea –Attorney for the Town  
 Charles G. Soderblom – Town Clerk

Mr. Young stated the purpose of this meeting was to continue with open discussion regarding the draft of the proposed Mass Gathering Law.

Mr. Carr stated that after the comments of the last meeting and review of the draft he is in agreement that the threshold for defining a mass gathering should be higher than 500 and suggested 1000.

Mr. McGoldrick responded with, “Again why should 1000 be the threshold when the NYS Department of Health sets 5000 as the threshold?”

The following areas were concerns:

1. Balancing the quality of life the residents and visitors enjoy in the town without stifling business growth
2. Does having a law increase the town’s liability?
3. Consider a step process where certain areas become applicable depending on the size of the event.
4. Can the town roads currently handle the project traffic volume
5. The parking rate suggested is too low and 180 cars per acre should be considered as that is what most events are using
6. Does the requirement of fifty square feet per person include the parking area
7. If the position of a local Civil Defense Officer doesn’t exist it should not be included in the law
8. Description of what a command post should have
9. Description of noxious weed
10. Define sanitation removal guidelines keeping in mind that many do not pick up on weekends.
11. Noise control consider hours vs. decibels
12. Insurance amount too high
13. Define buffer area including what it is to be constructed of

Mr. Rappleyea will obtain insurance quotes and present them at the next meeting.

Mr. Carr explained that the next meeting will be held June 24, 2003 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting will be a workshop for the board to draw the next draft of the law. The public is urged to attend; however, comments will not be sought at this meeting.

**Mr. Hulbert made the motion to adjourn at 7:34 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Sutton.**

Respectfully,

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Chris Kohrs, Deputy Town Clerk