

Village of Sackets Harbor Planning Board
September 17, 2025
Regular Meeting Minutes
112 N. Broad St.
Sackets Harbor, NY. 13685

Present: Chair Dick Stephens, Craig Parker, Merle Tousant, and Mike Smith. A quorum was established. Janet Quinn was excused. Scott Goodrich was present to represent Whiskey Coop.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the August 20, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Dick Stephens made a motion to approve. Craig Parker seconded the motion. Vote: 4 ayes (Stephens, Parker, Tousant, and Smith), 0 nays.

Janet Quinn's report to the Village Board from the August 20, 2025 Planning Board meeting were reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS

#24-79 Lawler Commercial Properties, 85 Worth Road, Sackets Harbor – Jim Corbin reported that the original door for the laundromat was found and will be rehabilitated. We will be notified when the door has been repaired and reinstalled.

NEW BUSINESS

#25-35 Whiskey Coop, 214 ½ West Main Street, Sackets Harbor – An application has been submitted for a special permit for a temporary tent over the outside seating area. SEQR was reviewed and declared to have no significant adverse impact on the environment in a motion made by Dick Stephens and seconded by Merle Tousant. Vote: 4 ayes (Stephens, Tousant, Smith, Parker), 0 nays. A motion was made by Mike Smith to approve the application as complete with drawings of the structure with heaters and seconded by Merle Tousant. Vote: 4 ayes (Smith, Tousant, Parker, Stephens), 0 nays.

A public hearing was opened at 7:15 pm. Dick Stephens read aloud emails received from four different addresses in opposition to the project (johnsails1968@yahoo, 1812jimmy@gmail, sussieqbaker@aol, and avid.lumbago9p@icloud). Scott Goodrich explained the application for the tent, stating nothing had changed from the application last year. He stated this was not a request for an expansion but rather a way to utilize existing seating to offer customers more dining options throughout the winter months. Members of the board discussed with Scott whether there were future plans for a permanent structure. They also discussed ways to use a temporary structure that would look more historically esthetic, such as a different color or material for the tent. Scott stated he was unsure what type of permanent structure would be acceptable as such a structure would obstruct the Boathouse and he felt the zoning laws were not clear on this topic. It was noted that Special Permits were not intended to be a solution year after year. Craig Parker made a motion to approve, for a final time, a Special Permit for the tent until April 30, 2026, based on unclear guidance provided for temporary structures. Craig mentioned this approval should include the vestibule. It was reiterated this would be the final year the tent would be approved via Special Permit until 1) the business owner applies with a different temporary structure, 2) the business owner provides a plan for a permanent structure, or 3) [The village zoning changes to allow such](#)

[a structure](#). Craig's motion was approved and seconded by Merle Tousant. Vote: 4 ayes (Parker, Tousant, Smith, Stephens), 0 nays.

ONGOING ITEMS: Discussion to be held until the October meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm in a motion made by Merle Tousant and seconded by Craig Parker. Vote: 4 ayes (Tousant, Parker, Stephens, Smith), 0 nays.

[Amended per PB recommendation 10/15/25](#)

Minutes submitted by:

Caroline Baker
Deputy Clerk