

To: Tuxedo Town Board Member, Tuxedo Planning Board Members

From: Sue Scher

July 8, 2019

Re: Planning Board Membership Terms – Introductory Local Law – Town of Tuxedo

As a Tuxedo resident who spent several years attending Planning board meetings before any of its current members or the members of this board were serving, and as a person with experience with administering a department, writing policies, and chairing committees, I have some thoughts about the changes be considered for the planning board. There appear to be several items left out of the new law and it is therefore not clear.

### **Article V 16-22 Terms: appointments: vacancies**

**Section A - terms** All positions will be extinguished immediately. Will all present members be automatically reappointed? If so, for how long? Will their new terms be consistent with the length of term left from their initial appointment? The list of new terms is not clear. It does not indicate who gets which terms. It seems to say that some people will get 6 and 7 year terms.

**Section B – probationary** The grounds for an unsatisfactory rating are not spelled out. It appears to me, that, in order to insure that personal or political issues are not grounds for an unsatisfactory designation, rules and regulations ( such a refusal to go for training, missing meetings etc.) need to be enumerated. There is also no mention of an early notification that a member is being considered unsatisfactory. A mid-term review could give a member a change to remedy behavior.

**Section C- vacancies** According to this revised law the Town Board remains the body which appoints the members after receipt of a list of candidates from the Planning Board. It does not clarify how this list is developed. It does not spell out how the Planning Board follows the

*can't assume the plan*

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current town code to advertise for openings. How else are members solicited? How is the community told the qualifications for board membership? Where does a current member who wants to be reappointed fit in? What are the guidelines for the interviews of the prospective members? Who is part of that interview; all town board members, all or some of the planning board members? How long do the new members serve? Who develops the list of questions?