

HERKIMER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING • HERKIMER, NEW YORK 13350

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MINUTES

Herkimer County Planning Board
Monday, May 18, 2026

The Herkimer County Planning Board (HCPB) met in person on May 18, 2026, and the meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m.

The following were present:

Les Stephens, HCPB Chairperson
Bob Drummond
Donna Salamone

Robyn Cadwell
Hanna Sauberan, HOCCPP Staff

Minutes

Minutes from the April 20, 2026 meeting were unanimously approved, following a motion by Bob Drummond and second by Donna Salamone.

New Business

Cozy Haven School – Mc Koons Road, Town of Columbia

HCPB reviewed a special use permit to construct a community school on Mc Koons Road in the Town of Columbia. The HCPB did not identify any significant countywide or intermunicipal impacts and therefore issued a “No Recommendation as to Final Action”. Citing no likely countywide impact, Donna Salamone motioned for “No Recommendation”. Bob Drummond seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Keller – Elizabethtown Road, Town of Columbia

HCPB reviewed a use variance to designate a pre-established Airbnb as commercial on Elizabethtown Road in the Town of Columbia. Members agreed the potential for intermunicipal and/or countywide impacts would be minimal. Donna Salamone motioned for “No Recommendation”. Bob Drummond seconded, and the motion passed with all in favor.

Town of Columbia – Town of Columbia

HCPB reviewed a 12-month moratorium on the construction of wind energy deriving towers and transmission facilities in the Town of Columbia. Members agreed the potential for intermunicipal and/or countywide impacts would be minimal. Robyn Cadwell motioned for “No Recommendation”. Bob Drummond seconded, and the motion passed with all in favor.

Larrea – State Route 28, Town of Webb

HCPB reviewed a conditional use permit to allow the operation of a retail business for a boat tour company on State Route 28 in the Town of Webb. Members agreed the potential for intermunicipal and/or countywide impacts would be minimal. Donna Salamone motioned for “No Recommendation”. Robyn Cadwell seconded, and the motion passed with all in favor.

Fairbrother – State Route 28, Town of Webb

HCPB reviewed a conditional use permit to allow a portable farmers market stand on a vacant lot in the Town of Webb. Members agreed the potential for intermunicipal and/or countywide impacts would be minimal. Robyn Cadwell motioned for “No Recommendation”. Bob Drummond seconded, and the motion passed with all in favor.

Varano – Eldred Avenue, Town of Frankfort

HCPB reviewed a use variance to house five turkeys on property as emotional support animals on Eldred Avenue in the Town of Frankfort. Members agreed the potential for intermunicipal and/or countywide impacts would be minimal. Bob Drummond motioned for “No Recommendation”. Robyn Cadwell seconded, and the motion passed with all in favor.

Town of Winfield – Town of Winfield

HCPB reviewed a 6-month moratorium on the development of battery energy storage systems in the Town of Winfield. Members agreed the potential for intermunicipal and/or countywide impacts would be minimal. Robyn Cadwell motioned for “No Recommendation”. Donna Salamone seconded, and the motion passed with all in favor.

Other Business

The next meeting of the Herkimer County Planning Board is scheduled for June 15, 2026, at noon. The meeting will be held in person at the Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce (420 East German Street, Herkimer, NY 13350). There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.