

SIDDSO said the board now will issue a letter to the New York State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) requesting a hearing. The community board will be notified of the hearing date and the public will be invited.

At the hearing, the board and the agencies proposing the group homes will give testimony in the presence of an arbitrator, or hearing officer. This testimony will be sent to OMRDD Commissioner Elin Howe in Albany, who will make a decision concerning the sites.

The group home opponents left after the vote.

In other business, Louis Fraser was approved as the chairman of the environmental committee. He replaced Charles Talley, who left due to business obligations.

The board enthusiastically approved the land use committee's motion opposing any cosmetic changes to the proposed Rossville jail site. Members said the board is opposed to the jail and is opposed to anything that would facilitate its construction.

The board also approved a motion by Gibbons to put a committee together to propose changes to the Padavan law.