

Minutes of Comprehensive Planning Committee
March 10, 2009, 7:30 pm
Copake Town Hall

Members Present: Fiona Hutchinson, Marcia Becker, Charles Dodson, Bill Kiernan, George Beneke, Dan Haas, Frank Peteroy, Russ Davis, Jeanne Mettler, Harvey Weber, Roberta Roll.

Minutes from the Feb. 10th meeting were approved. (The Feb. 19 meeting was cancelled due to a snow storm).

Ms. Hutchinson has found it difficult to attend meetings. If she cannot make it to the next meeting, she will speak with Jeanne about future meetings.

Mr. Dodson gave an update of the GIS. The installation was difficult; it needed CD's instead of DVD's, but the installation is complete. The GIS depends on at least thirty other programs and two languages. Reading others' maps is relatively easy, but doing one's own is more difficult. We have Arcview updated from 9.2 to 9.3. The cost for this is \$415 with technical help through April 30, 2009. We will need an additional update at that time for the next year. We will pay for that out of our budget. (Strategic Planning bought the first set-up, Planning Board paid for first update). As mentioned in the past, parcel digitization will be completed before the year's end according to Mike Lorensen, the tax map supervisor of Columbia County. (There are 2996 parcels in Copake).

Mr. Dodson has put a FAQ's section regarding comp. planning on the town website.

Ms. Becker reported that Kenneth Flood, the county commissioner of economic planning and development will speak to the EAB on March 17 at 7 pm.

Ms. Hutchinson introduced Tim Riley who give a presentation about his idea for spearheading a hops-growing coop in Copake.

Draft Survey

We all agreed that we wanted to adjust the survey to make it more specific and relevant to Copake. We agreed that the "Vision for Copake" be placed at the end of the survey. We also agreed that we wanted to change the scale for responses from categories of "important/not important" to those of "agree/disagree," keeping the 5 gradations.

We also agreed to have a separate section for Downtown Copake and the Hamlets of Craryville, West Copake, Copake Falls, and created questions for this.

We spent much time discussing and editing the sections on transportation, economic development, town government, arts and culture, historic preservation, infrastructure and community facilities and recreation.

The next meeting will be Thursday, March 19 at 7:30. The rest of the survey will be edited.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Dodson, Mr. Davis seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 9:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberta Roll