

Minutes of the Comprehensive Planning Committee
Tuesday, June 8, 2010 7:30 pm
Copake Town Hall

Members Present: Jeanne Mettler, Rus Davis, Bill Kiernan, Marcia, Charles Dodson, George Beneke, Roberta Roll, Frank Peteroy
Members Absent: Harvey Weber, Dan Haas

Ms. Roll said that the May 20th minutes are complete, and May 25th will be complete by next meeting. Mr. Dodson reported that we received \$2,500 from Rheinstrom Hill. This was disappointing, as we had asked for \$20,000. Dr. Beneke wondered how many requests they had.

Mr. Dodson said they hand out 15-20 grants. Ms. Becker asked where the money is being deposited, saying that it needs to go on a line item in the budget. Mr. Dodson said that is being done. He also said we had not heard yet from Greenway. He has been in contact with Ms. Irwin, who suggested we apply to the Dept. of Housing and Community Renewal, which has a deadline of July 19th. She is willing to fill out the 18 page application. We can apply for funds for the following: 1. Identify and prioritize economic and community needs 2. Help develop strategies to address economic and community needs 3. Help low to moderate income citizens 4. Mitigate slums 5. Diminish threats to health and welfare 6. Planning for downtown improvements 7. Planning funds - this would also be applicable to zoning. A Community Development Block Grant would cover this. Ms. Irwin suggested we apply for planning funds. It was noted that Ancram obtained a CDBG toward the end of their comp. plan process. Mr. Peteroy asked who would be the recipient of this grant - River St. or us. Mr. Dodson said it could be either one. Ms. Mettler asked if matching funds were needed. Mr. Dodson said 1/3 matching funds were needed, plus a resolution by the Town Bd.; they would be willing to have a special meeting. Ms. Mettler said we need 2 public hearings in order to apply for funds, which we could do by the July deadline. She also noted that Ms. Irwin said that matching funds can be in-kind or from other funding sources. Mr. Dodson acknowledged that, in that case, we don't need to ask the Bd. for funds. We should apply for 40-50K. Ms. Mettler asked when the deadline is to hear about funds awarded. This was not clear. A motion was made to approve the application for funds from DHCR.

Ms. Mettler reviewed the meeting schedule. June 17th , 7 pm, Ms. Irwin will be here. June 29th, July 13th, 20th and 29th will be the following meetings.

We then reviewed the Sample Goals and Actions.

Ms. Becker asked if the vision statement is complete. Ms. Roll replied that it is almost done; we might revisit it for slight adjustments as we complete the goals and actions.

Ms. Becker then asked if the goals and actions are the subjects for the public workshop July 31. Yes.

We read through the goals and Ms. Mettler asked if we liked them and was there anything missing. We agreed that they were appropriate and acceptable. Then we reviewed the goals along with the action items. Under goal #1, Community, we added an item about revitalization in the hamlets, and encouraging communication. Under

Farms, we discussed item “g,” which could have different meanings. We will ask Ms. Irwin to clarify. Other goals and action items were discussed and edited. We also talked about how specific we should be in the comp. plan. The question came up of whether this action matrix will be a part of the comp. plan. Yes, but it will be adjusted according to public input. Ms. Mettler brought up the Housing Resources land and how that fit into our planning process. Mr. Peteroy said it is not just a question of that particular field - it’s the whole town and the question of how the whole town grows. The basic structure of the town is 18th century. He also noted that the idea of senior housing there keeps it central to the town. Dr. Beneke commented that we are now talking about specific areas. He noted that Amenia’s plan dealt with land in overall terms. Ms. Roll asked if they hadn’t identified potential uses for specific areas. It was noted that those maps were completed after the planning process. Dr. Beneke said that we have to make sure that the plan “happens.” Who will follow us? When we finish, we will give it to a zoning committee. We need to include goals and a game plan. Ms. Roll said this would probably become clearer as we obtain more public input and continue our work. We all agreed that it is helpful and necessary to continue to consider the question of how to make the plan as complete and doable as possible. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Becker, Ms. Mettler seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 9:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Roll