



"The Heart of the Park... Where the Eagle Soars"

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**Town of Shandaken
Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting
August 14, 2023**

Meeting was called to order at 7:03pm; members present

Mary Herrmann	Present
Vivian Welton	Present
Mark Loete	Present
Allen Vella	Present
Kevin VanBlarcum	Present
MJ Reiss	Present
James Amenta	Present
Leah Perloff	Present
Hilary Smith	Present
Roy Dignes	Absent
Grace Grant	Absent

Others Present: Peter Disclafani – Supervisor, Jan Jaffe

Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes from the June 2023 meeting made by Kevin VanBlarcum; seconded by James Amenta; all in favor.

Motion to accept the minutes from the July 2023 meeting made by Mary Herrmann; seconded by Kevin VanBlarcum; all in favor.

New Business

Jan Jaffe, a resident of Pine Hill, member of PH2 and one of the buyers of the Hotel in Pine Hill, located at 310 Main St in Pine Hill, is in attendance to ask the committee to write a letter in support of a NY Forward grant application they will be submitting this year. NY Forward is a grant that focuses on revitalizing "down town" areas in small communities that is awarded by New York State.

NY Forward seeks to fund projects that would encompass multiple projects in one "down town" area. Jan states that there are many projects in the works in Pine Hill including the development of the Rail Trail, the Community Center and Library have projects in the future, as well as the Hotel that a group of residents purchased last year.

Jan Jaffe says they will be asking for a letter of support from this Committee, as well as from the Town Board.

Mary Herrmann does not see a problem with this committee writing a letter. Jan Jaffe says she will provide the committee with language that can be used in the letter.

Leah Perloff makes a motion to write a letter in support of the application to NY Forward Round 2; seconded by Kevin VanBlarcum; all in favor.

Old Business

During last months meeting the Committee reviewed the "Vision Statement" as well as the Introduction in the current Comprehensive Plan, and will review the "Shandaken Tomorrow" section during this meeting.

Review of the Introduction and "Shandaken History" will not be done as a committee, but the history section will need some updating, and the Introduction will be written when the update to the plan is complete.

Leah Perloff reads the Shandaken Tomorrow section.

Population and Housing Discussion

James Amenta notes that contrary to the Comprehensive Plans prediction of population growth, Shandaken and Ulster County have experienced a population decrease. And that decline does impact the residents of the Town.

Land Use and Development Discussion

The current plan states that approximately 84% of the Town is "built out." Likely that number needs to be adjusted to reflect new construction over the past 15+ years as well as new Flood Mapping that may have impacted some of that "buildable" land.

Infrastructure Discussion

Water and Sewer – Information in the current plan remains the same; residents of Phoenicia have expressed an interest in addressing the sewer plan with the DEP/CWC again. The committee would like to invite the CWC to a meeting to discuss this. James Amenta will reach out to them.

Cell Phone Service Discussion

This section should be updated to reflect the new tower, and to make sure that getting cell service in Shandaken should remain a high priority for the Town Board.

Internet Communication Discussion

This section should prioritize fiber optics as well as high speed internet to all the homes in Shandaken.

Pedestrian/Trails Discussion

The "Phoenicia Riverwalk" was a plan to create trails along the river that never went through as the bulk of the land that would have been used is privately held. Updated plan should support the extension/connection of the Rail Trails.

Transportation Discussion

The updated plan should perhaps encourage lower speeds in certain sections as well as the installation of car charging stations. The development of other modes of travel outside of vehicles is important as well.

Flood Protection

The Town has made the most progress in Flood Protection since the publication of the current plan. Support for AWSMP, following through with all LFA recommendations and maintaining the Towns CRS rating should all be included in the updated plan.

The committee will review Community Services during the next meeting.

SLR was supposed to present to the Committee during this meeting, but had to cancel due to illness. The Supervisor says that Labella, Brinnier and Larios as well as two other companies have expressed an interest in the RFP. Current plan is to have a Special Meeting with the Town Board following all bid receipts. He expects to hear mid-September about the Smart Growth Grant.

There being no further business to discuss, Leah Perloff makes a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Mary Herrmann; all in favor. Meeting closed at 8:23pm.

Next meeting will be held on September 11, 2023 at 7:00pm.