



Supervisor: (845) 688-7165
Police: (845) 688-9902
Town Clerk: (845) 688-5004
Justice Court: (845) 688-5005
Assessor: (845) 688-5003
Assessor Fax: (845) 688-5708
ZBA/ZEO/Planning: (845) 688-5008
Highway: (845) 688-9901
Fax: (845) 688-2041
P.O. Box 134, 7209 Rte. 28, Shandaken, NY 12480

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

www.shandaken.us

**Town of Shandaken
Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting
September 11, 2023**

Meeting was called to order with the pledge of allegiance at 7:0pm; 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	Absent
Hilary Smith	Present
Roy Dignes	Absent
Grace Grant	Present

Others Present: Peter Disclafani – Supervisor, Angela and Herrman Galindo,

Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes from the August meeting made by Mary Herrmann; 2nd by Kevin VanBlarcum; all in favor.

New Business

Mary Herrmann reads the vision statement from PH2:

“Using our small footprint in a big wilderness and recreation area, our hamlet’s walkability, diverse and creative community, our rich history and vibrant non-profits, we want to model what sustainable living looks like in a “Forever Wild” park.”

PH2 is applying for a NY Forward Grant for improvements in Pine Hill and looking for a letter supporting that application from the Comprehensive Plan Committee. Letter attached to these minutes.

Mary Herrmann reads a draft of a letter supporting the application to NY Forward.

All members are in favor of the letter of support.

Old Business

Supervisor DiSclafani informs the Board that there is no news regarding the Smart Growth Grant. The Town Board will be opening bids for the RFP that was advertised, they have two bids to review, one from SLR and the other from LaBella.

The committee continues its review of the current plan, beginning with Community Services in the Shandaken Tomorrow Section.

Community Services

Emergency Communications - Information regarding payphones should be removed; and this section should emphasize a need for WIFI/broadband/cell service throughout the Town.

Public Parking should reflect a desire for more available parking in the hamlets, and a reevaluation of how the Zoning Code could make parking requirements more lenient.

Public Facilities should be updated to reflect that Belleayre is now an evacuation center, as well as some of the Fire Stations.

Vision and Goals

- A. The current plan encourages planning in regards to tourism, updated plan should focus on encouraging tourism that takes advantage of the cultural resources as well as natural resources. Given the increase in tourists using trails, swimming holes, etc language could be added to encourage the DEP, DEC, etc to increase their participation in the maintenance of these resources.
- B. Only comment regarding section B was to remove the language "encourage second homes"
- C. Hamlet Boundaries should be changed to Hamlet Zoning. The committee feels a review of the current Zoning Districts will need to be done at some point during this process.
- D. The SAFARI committee information should be included in the updated plan, and encouraged to remain. UCAT is also new since the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan.

The committee will review section E from Vision and Goals at the next meeting.

Motion to close the meeting made by Mary Herrmann; seconded by Kevin VanBlarcum; all in favor.

October 19, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

The Shandaken Comprehensive Plan Committee has been formed to update the Town's existing Comprehensive Plan. We have reviewed the NY Forward Pine Hill vision statement, list of needs and potential projects that have been developed through a community participatory process. Some of our committee members took part in that public process last year to identify Town needs and name potential projects in the hamlets that have a downtown.

The vision and the project list are consonant with the parts of our original comprehensive plan that we intend to reinforce with newer strategies and updated techniques. Our current plan states that "Overall, we seek to build our region as one with bustling hamlets, interesting shops, successful restaurants and attractive overnight accommodations, surrounded by open spaces and unspoiled natural beauty –one with a prosperous economy centered around tourism, historically our most enduring business."

The Pine Hill Forward application includes all that is embodied in that vision plus emphasis on activities that what we expect to be included in an accepted future Comprehensive Plan -- attention to climate resilience, highlighting historical resources using modern technology, support for unique nonprofit assets, and provision of codes and resources that encourage appropriate-scaled economic growth and affordable housing. We like Pine Hill's draft vision of itself as a model for a 21st century "Trail Town" that includes preserving its unique community character, improving the walkability of its downtown and access to trails and parks, while encouraging commerce on Main Street and looking for ways to add affordable housing for residents and affordable lodging for Catskill Park visitors, skiers and summer visitors.

Sincerely,

Mary L Herrmann

Chair, Shandaken Comprehensive Plan Committee