

**Town of Ancram
Comprehensive Plan Committee
July 9, 2007**

Present: Art Bassin, Barry Chase, Jim Bryant, Nancy Broe, Kyle Lougheed, Don MacLean; **Absent:** Leah Wilcox

The meeting was called to order by Chair Art Bassin at 7:05pm.

Mr. Bassin stated that he had called three former clients of Community Planning to check references and received glowing responses. He still has two more people to speak with.

The Committee planned to work on the scope and budget of the project this night. Mr. Bassin stated that he had spoken to Nan concerning the Economic Analysis and she feels that it could cost more to do a "fiscal impact analysis" of the development alternatives facing the town than the development of the Comprehensive Plan itself. The committee decided to get a proposal for an economic analysis, but will not be concerned with this at the moment. It can be looked at toward the middle to end of the project. Mr. Bassin did suggest asking Pine Plains School District for a copy of the Fiscal Analysis they did a few years back concerning the growth in their district.

COMUNICATIONS:

Web Site: Community Planning can host a web site for Ancram until we transition to our own site.

The Committee discussed the need for a communication to the Community sent out via regular mail and e-mail explaining what a Comprehensive Plan really is. Mr. McLean suggested that when the web site is up and running we stop the e-mail list and refer the email list people to the web site. Mr. Bassin was not comfortable with just posting information to the web site without sending the same information to the email list. His concern was people will not check the Comp Plan web site regularly enough to keep up with what is going on. It was also suggested that we leave copies of Comp Plan announcements and mailings in the stores and post offices around town.

The Committee discussed the planned survey. Mr. McLean suggested that the committee could allow people to decide whether they would like an e-mail or hard copy of the survey if that was technically possible.

Mr. Bryant suggested that we also address the issue of the revaluation happening at the same time as the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Lougheed suggested giving a breakdown of both procedures in the first mailing and on the website.

OTHER ISSUES

Mr. Bassin asked if the Town Attorney would take care of the legal review and the resolutions needed to adopt the Comprehensive Plan when the time came for that. Mr. Bryant thought that this kind of thing not be included in the legal retainer. He will ask.

Mr. McLean asked who will print the finished document. Mr. Bassin stated that Nan could print them for \$20.00 a book. 50 Copies will be printed for the Town, and individuals who want their own copy will have to pay for their own.

Mr. McLean asked if the Town Board has any idea of what the costs of this Comprehensive Planning process is likely to will. Mr. Bryant stated they did not, but that they are not thinking a low number.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Bryant stated that he felt the following should be addressed at the next Town Board meeting: review the efforts of the Committee since last month, the standards used for the consultant interviews, and how the committee picked the Consultant. He stated that the Town Board will listen and take the suggestions of the committee. The next step will be to bring this all to the public. Nan should attend the August Board meeting if possible. A budget and a timeline should be presented to the Board at that time.

Mr. MacLean stated that the Committee should stress that Community Planning was the top choice for both their proposal and presentation, and not because they had the lowest price.

PLANNING ISSUES LIST

Mr. Bassin asked for additions to the list. One issue added was looking at the Roe Jan Kill as a resource due to it being a regulated trout stream. It will be placed under Environmental Issues. He stated that he had spoken to Nan about the list.

The Committee decided it will meet again on July 16, 2007.

A motion was made by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. MacLean to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.