

Town of Niles Comprehensive Plan Committee
Niles Town Hall, New Hope, NY
February 20, 2007

Present: Richard Coalson, Rose Roser, Kris Scholl, Diana Plue (Cramer), Co-Chair, Jane Kozlosky, Terri Cuddeback, Ellen Abend, and Kristy LaManche, CNY Regional Planning & Development Board. Guest: Town Supervisor, Al Dougherty

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Abend at 7:10 PM at the request of Ms. Plue.

Ms. Abend brought a booklet entitled *A Vision for Rural New York* for background information for the committee members to review. This was developed from eleven “listening sessions” and a Future of Rural NY Symposium (2006) sponsored by NYS Legislative Commission on Rural Resources, Cornell University and Cornell Cooperative Extension.

News Release and Flyers: Discussion on whether to include names of committee members on these documents. Ms. LaManche stated that the press release needed to be as concise as possible and names might be removed if put in the article. Some members expressed concern over publicizing names and not checking with every member prior to putting names on the flyer or website. Mr. Coalson suggested that a handout be developed and passed out at the Visioning Session which will include names and contact information of the committee members who do not object. Also, names and contact information of committee members will be placed on the project webpage located on the CNYRPB website. Ms. Abend will contact members not present.

Update on March Visioning Session: (Saturday, March 24, 2007, 1:00-3:00 PM)

Ms. LaManche brought the final news release and flyers for the committee to distribute throughout the Town promoting the session. She shared a draft agenda and reviewed it in detail with the committee. The focus of the first session is on land use issues and agriculture. Ms. Plue will begin the visioning session with a short background about the Comprehensive Plan Committee and Ms. LaManche will present some history and statistics. Encouraging public participation will be the top priority and questions will be presented to engage the audience. Ms. Cuddeback and Ms. Roser will coordinate refreshments which will include beverages and cookies. All committee members should try to be at the Town Hall by 12:30 PM.

Town Businesses: Ms. Roser reported that there are fifteen businesses in the Town of Niles. She will visit each and ask if they would be willing to participate in the visioning sessions and possibly donate a service or prize for a drawing to promote survey completion.

Discussion on subsequent visioning sessions: It was suggested that the April session be held in West Niles in the evening and the June date should also be held in the evening. Ms. Kozlosky will contact the Town Clerk and West Niles Fire Chief to check dates and facility availability. A discussion on the town laws resulted in the recommendation that all committee members need to be familiar with them prior to the visioning sessions. Mr. Scholl will get copies for all the committee members.

New Business: Ms. LaManche spoke about the concept of wind energy and whether that should be addressed in the comprehensive plan. As of this time, the Town of Niles has no regulations pertaining to building wind turbines. There is a least one wind turbine in the Town. Information can be found at the following website: <http://www.awstruewind.com>

Action:

- Mr. Scholl will secure copies of the Town of Niles laws and deliver them to each committee member to review.
- Ms. Abend will contact all members not present about having their names and contact information included on the website or in a handout at the visioning session. She will send the information to Ms. LaManche.
- Ms. Kozlosky will contact the West Niles Fire Dept. Fire Chief and Town Clerk about dates for subsequent meetings.
- Ms. Cuddeback and Ms. Roser will coordinate refreshments for the Visioning Session.
- Ms. Roser will contact each business in the town and ask for their participation.

Next Meeting will be at the conclusion of the visioning session: Saturday, March 24, 2007 at the Niles Town Hall

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Abend
Secretary

Note: Caroline Head's email address: headfarm@bci.net