



Town of Mount Hope Comprehensive Plan Update



Comprehensive Plan Update Committee (CPUC) Committee Meeting #6

Mount Hope Town Hall
Thursday, January 5, 2017

Meeting Notes

The following members of the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee (CPUC) were present:

- Dominick Cambareri,
- Daniel Golebiowski,
- Ike Palmer,
- Wayne Howell,
- Matthew Howell, and
- Lee Runnalls

Also in attendance were:

- David Bavoso (Town Attorney),
- Michael Welti (B&L), and
- 2 members of the public/town official – James Smith and Julie Musial

The meeting began at 5:00 PM. Mr. Welti welcomed everyone, reviewed the meeting agenda (attached), and began discussion of committee business.

Committee Business

The Committee reviewed the notes from its last meeting (November 30th) and agreed that they were complete. The notes will be posted on the comprehensive plan page of the Town's website.

Community Visioning Workshop

Mr. Welti initiated a discussion about the Community Visioning Workshop that was held on December 13th. Everyone was pleased with the turnout and the outcome of the meeting. It was agreed that participation by those in attendance was very useful.

Mr. Welti reviewed the summary notes from the Visioning Workshop. As a result of the public

discussion, he suggested some refinements to the Draft Vision and Goals (attached). These were discussed by the committee and everyone agreed that they were appropriate.

The committee then discussed the summary of the breakout group discussion and clarified a few points. In reference to the comment that code enforcement within the Town is lacking and should be improved, it was noted that the code enforcement position was only recently made fulltime. It is anticipated that this change will improve the Town's code enforcement capability. The committee was not sure how to interpret the comment suggesting that wetland buffers should be extended back to their original distance. There have not been any changes to the wetland regulations in recent memory. Similarly, the committee did not understand the comment about there being too much commercial zoning near the Grange. Finally, the committee noted, in reference to the suggestion that soil-based zoning may be a good way to control the density of future development, that this is already something that the Town does. The Planning Board thinks that it has been working well.

Next Step: Draft Plan

Mr. Welti noted that the next step would be for B&L to begin working on a draft plan for the committee's review. He discussed a potential outline for the document. The committee responded that it looked forward to reviewing the initial draft.

Next Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 23rd (5:00 PM at Town Hall).

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at about 6:30 PM.



**Town of Mount Hope
Comprehensive Plan Update
AGENDA**



**Comprehensive Plan Update Committee (CPUC)
Meeting #6**

Mount Hope Town Hall
Thursday, January 5, 2017 - 5:00 PM

1. Welcome and Agenda Review

2. Committee Business

- Meeting notes from November 30th
- Project website

3. Community Visioning Workshop – December 13th

- Meeting Notes – Recap/Discussion
- Additional Comments received since the workshop

4. Next Step: Draft Plan

- Inventory and Analysis
- Vision and Goals
- Plan Recommendations
- Implementation

5. Next Committee Meeting

- Thursday, February 23rd?

6. Public Comment

7. Adjourn

Revised Draft Vision and Goals (for Committee Review and Discussion on 1/5/17)

Vision Statement

The Town of Mount Hope is a vibrant rural community that has conserved active farmland and protected its abundant natural resources and scenic beauty while guiding appropriate residential and commercial growth in and around the Village of Otisville, in the Town's small hamlets, and in other well-defined, compact development areas. The Town provides cost-efficient services to its residents, maintains public safety, and celebrates its history and culture while encouraging residents and welcoming visitors to patronize its small businesses and enjoy its rural character and outdoor recreational opportunities.

Goals

- Maintain Mount Hope's rural character by working with landowners to encourage stewardship, preserving farmland and supporting efforts to diversify and enhance the economic prospects of agriculture, and partnering with regional conservation organizations on open space conservation and trail development.
- Protect natural resources and conserve scenic landscapes such as those associated with the Shawangunk Ridge.
- Carefully manage drinking water resources (surface water and groundwater) that serve residents of the Town and the region.
- Maintain a balanced tax base – though some residential development is anticipated it is important to recognize that from a fiscal perspective, new residential growth rarely pays for itself in property taxes. Therefore, it is important to ensure that the community maintains a balance of residential development, commercial development, and open space.
- Encourage agricultural-related businesses, craft industries, and agritourism/ecotourism throughout rural parts of Town and small business development in the Village, the hamlets, and other compact development areas. Ensure that traditional and modern infrastructure exists to support small business success.
- Provide for a variety of housing options (styles, price points, etc.) to support the diverse needs of current and future residents while retaining the overall low density, rural pattern of development prevalent through most of the Town.

- Retain the scenic, meandering characteristics of the Town's rural roads and highways while enhancing safety for vehicles, bicyclists and pedestrians where necessary. Promote off-road bicycle and pedestrian connections between areas of activity in the Village and the Town.
- Continue to cooperate with the Village of Otisville on issues of mutual concern. In many ways, the Village is the center of the community and its success is important for all town residents. Look for opportunities to share services when appropriate.
- Participate in regional planning initiatives and provide input on proposed development projects and major public investments that occur nearby and that could impact Town residents.
- Modernize development regulations to ensure that they are clear and effective. They should establish appropriate standards and guide development in a manner consistent with this plan.
- Enhance the quality of, and access to, the Town's cultural, historic and recreational resources.
- Promote energy efficiency and conservation, and the use of renewable energy in the Town.