

MEETING MINUTES

Town of Lake Luzerne Comprehensive Plan Committee

Date: Monday, September 17, 2007

Time: 7pm

Purpose: Draft Vision Statement and Review of Comp Plan Preparation Steps

Next Meeting Scheduled for Monday, October 15th at 7pm, Town Hall

1. Minutes from August 20 meeting were reviewed. No comments or revisions were suggested.
2. Elan began a presentation outlining the general findings about Lake Luzerne and how they will be used to begin formulating the Comprehensive Plan. The concept of a sustainable vision for the community was introduced, describing the process of building upon the Town's current assets to enhance the community in the future.
3. The physical assets, quality of life, and human capital of Lake Luzerne were discussed. The committee added to Elan's list the number of religious institutions that are active within and around the Hamlet.
4. The issue of the definition of "Hamlet" was raised. A discussion followed about the various uses of the word "hamlet," as well as the different hamlet designations within the Town of Lake Luzerne. The concept of the "historic hamlet of Lake Luzerne" was outlined, Elan stating that this area is what was meant when they referred to the "Hamlet." It was decided that further discussion of this issue is required, and that this topic would be fleshed out at the committee meeting that will involve discussion of recommendations for the Hamlet Revitalization. Any thoughts or ideas regarding this issue would be welcomed by Elan, and committee members are urged to provide their input at any time.
5. Lisa Nagle informed the committee of a new Grant from the Department of Environmental Conservation: the 2007 Adirondack Park Community Smart Growth Program. This grant is only available to municipalities within the Adirondack Park and will provide money for planning and other initiatives supporting the principles of smart growth. If anyone would like to read more about the grant you can find the information at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/37874.html>.

6. Lisa Nagle asked the committee if they would like to have the company Green Community Technologies (GCT) come speak to the group about alternative technologies for dealing with municipal sewer and other infrastructure issues. The committee stated that they would like to hear GCT's presentation, and it was mentioned that members of the Town Board should be encouraged to attend the meeting to hear the presentation.
7. Elan continued the presentation about the vision statement, outlining the choices that are available to Luzerne in terms of the future of the community, whether it be to become a tourist destination, focus solely on open space preservation, to cater to a more affluent population, or to attempt to find a balance between growth and preservation. There was a general consensus that the idea of balanced growth was preferred and should be the focus of the Comprehensive Plan.
8. The three committee members who had prepared their own versions of a vision statement read their suggestions to the group. Elan thanked them for their input and stated that much of what had been provided by them was either used in creating the draft vision statement that Elan prepared, or would be included in the goals and recommendations portion of the plan which will be developed over the next few months.
9. Elan presented the committee with the draft vision statement that they had prepared. The committee was asked to review the draft and make any comments, changes, or suggestions to Elan before the next committee meeting. Elan will edit the draft vision statement and bring the revised draft before the committee at the next meeting.
10. Concern was raised regarding the placement of seasonal vehicles on vacant lots along the Hudson River. Elan thanked the committee for bringing this issue to their attention and stated that the problem would be revisited by the committee during the session devoted to Waterfront Revitalization and that the zoning code changes could be used to help remedy the issue.
11. Elan outlined the next steps in the preparation of the Comprehensive Plan, informing the committee that the next series of meetings would be devoted to fleshing out the goals and recommendations for various topics of the plan, such as Housing, Recreation, Open Space, Economic Development, Waterfront Revitalization, and so on. The committee was asked in what format they would like to review this information. It was decided that Elan would prepare recommendations in the form of bulleted lists with short descriptions of each item that could be discussed and formalized, at which point Elan will expand upon the descriptions and prepare a more complete write-up of the recommendations.

12. A discussion occurred regarding zoning and how it will fit in to the process. Lisa Nagle explained that during the formulation of the plan it will be necessary for the committee to have an eye focused on zoning issues, and that some of the recommendations of the plan will translate into changes in the zoning code. The zoning code review and changes will be a separate undertaking that will occur after the draft Comprehensive Plan has been completed.
13. Next Committee Meeting scheduled for Monday, October 15th at 7pm.