

Comprehensive Planning Committee Minutes 1/23/25

Meeting starts: 6:30pm. Minutes taken by Rich Azoff

Members present: Rich Azoff, Sam Dederick, Bob Dederick, Lauren Marcello Ruberg, Susan Weeks, Stephanie Bassler, Laura Diffenderfer
Also present: Adriana Beltrani, Leeanne Thornton, Sean Weaver
Absent: Carole Ann Mayone, Aden Hughes,

Accept minutes from August, 2024.

Annual election of Committee officers. All officers were elected by unanimous vote:

Samantha Dederick - Chair
Lauren Marcello Rubert - Vice Chair
Rich Azoff - Secretary

Two community members, Stephanie Bassler and Laura Diffenderfer, visited the meeting. They bring a wealth of experience and perspective to the committee. Thanks also to Sean Weaver, as always, for bringing his vast knowledge and experience to our discussion.

Town Board Report:

- Kalina Drive land subsidence and other storm runoff problems in the town were discussed.
- To address zoning issues on Rt 32 with respect to certain businesses, a “floating” zone was prepared by Adriana.
- A proposed solution to a higher level of traffic accidents on a certain section of Rt 9W was presented.
- UCAT may expand to certain areas in Saugerties

Business

The general issue of how to create more affordable housing was discussed. Adriana suggested the use of floating zones was probably not a great use

of this zoning tool. Some approaches from surrounding communities were discussed. Rich Azoff attended a state zoning presentation that emphasized the benefits of higher density housing vs 2-4 acre “traditional” housing developments as well as the dangers of unbridled “sprawl”-type development. Winston Farm and The Villas projects were discussed.

Adriana suggested that a review of the comprehensive plan as adopted on March, 2021 would be fruitful, as well as a “deeper dive” into relevant existing zoning regulations. The goal is to develop a roadmap for the creation of more affordable housing options that could be part of a comprehensive plan revision. This was unanimously agreed upon by the committee.

In Preparation for the February Meeting: Members should review the existing comprehensive plan in order to discuss it efficiently at the next meeting. Lauren sent a copy to all committee members

Meeting adjourned at 8:30

Minutes respectfully submitted: Richard Azoff