

Comprehensive Planning Committee Minutes 8/25/23

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

Members present: Josepha Gutelius, Rich Azoff, Sam Dederick, Aden Hughes, Lauren Marcello Ruberg, Susan Weeks

Also present: LEEANNE THORNTON, Kirk Ritchie

Absent: Carole Ann Mayone, Bob Dederick,

Accept minutes from July 2023.

Town Board Report: LEEANNE THORNTON

- Kevin Brown, Assistant Building Inspector, has resigned. He has indicated his willingness to provide input to our committee if requested.
- An addition to the “Events” regulations previously sent to the TB has been proposed. It would address issues related to “agri-tourism” sites. A sample from the Town of Montgomery was distributed. LEEANNE asked if members could read the sample and the issue could be discussed next month.
- LEEANNE attended the ADU presentation given by Ulster County. Rich attended online, and the presentation was a repeat of the one Sam and Bob had previously attended.
- The CPC has spent approximately \$7000 this year on consultants (Adriana). She intends to request an appropriate amount for this purpose in next year’s budget.

Business

1. It was agreed that members would review the Montgomery Agri-tourism regulations, send questions or comments to each other during the coming month, then discuss it as a priority at our September 22 meeting.
2. The majority of the meeting was taken up by a discussion with Kirk Ritchie. Kirk has been a co-chair of the Woodstock Affordable Housing Committee and is also currently CEO of a non-profit initiative

promoting the Land Trust vehicle for creating affordable community housing.

3. Mr. Ritchie reviewed his committee's efforts to revise zoning regulations in Woodstock to encourage homeowners and require developers to set aside housing for low/moderate residents, and to set aside land in developments for conservation. He highlighted the use of "floating residential zones". These revisions will be going before the Woodstock Town Board in September. He also briefly discussed his personal efforts to create a vehicle for use in Woodstock and surrounding towns to acquire land to be put into a Land Trust to be used exclusively for the creation of low/moderate income housing. There was a lively discussion around these issues and the topic of how to encourage affordable/work force housing in Saugerties.

Many thanks to Kirk Ritchie for volunteering his time to share the results and ongoing efforts that reflect years of work on his and other Woodstock committee members' part. He graciously agreed to be available for further questions in the future.

The question of whether the CPC should address the issue of affordable housing, perhaps in concert with the Saugerties Affordable Housing Committee, will be addressed at our September meeting if there is time following the discussion of agri-tourism regulations. If not, then at a subsequent meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Minutes respectfully submitted: Richard Azoff