

TOWN OF WHEATFIELD
Comprehensive Planning Implementation Task Force

SUMMARY OF MEETING, March 23, 2017

Meeting called to 6:32PM

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Art Gerbec

Motion made by R. Muscatello and seconded by J Gargas to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2017 Task Force meeting. Motion unanimously approved.

Town Planner Report

Drew Reilly

- Niagara Falls Blvd Zoning & Overlay Proposal
 - o Setting up a work session meeting with Town Board. Possibly April 3²⁰¹⁷.
 - o Revising the Overlay map is a work in process. The new GIS map will replace voluminous paper maps.
- Airport Protection Law
 - o Town Board adopted the Overlay zone law. Action complete except for meetings with other municipalities.
 - o PDR progress report to follow when the Agriculture Focus Group reports later this meeting.
- Hierarchal Zoning Throughout the Town
 - o On hold until next month when current initiatives are completed. **To be discussed at the next meeting.**
 - o Discussion will also include "mixed use zoning" **To be discussed again at the next meeting.**
- Town Residential Build-out Analysis
 - o Each focus group is encouraged to determinet the impact of the construction 30,000 additional residential homes will have on the focus group's long-term planning. A focus group SWOT Analysis for each group is highly recommended and shared with the Task Force. (Facilitator is available for assistance, if needed).
- Wind Energy Law
 - o Focus group is starting to work on Wind Energy now that the Solar Electric is complete and adopted by the Town Board.
 - o Will concentrate on energizing those members involved with the Solar assignment.
- LWRP Management & Implementation
 - o The Task Force is available to monitor the progress of this important study.
 - o Subsequent to extensive discussion, Larry Helwig, Deputy Supervisor; and J Gargas have volunteered to collaborate and review the document's mandates and recommendations to ensure full use of the study.
- Park Zoning
 - o Drew is sending additional laws enacted by adjoining municipalities for use by the group.
 - o The advantages offered by such a designation were discussed with consensus to proceed.

Administration & Legal Matters

- o None

Focus Group Leaders

- o **Energy Application**
 - o Group will commence with updating the Town's existing Wind Energy law.
 - o Attendance is lacking. Will try to reenergize the members.

Joe Malloy

- **Business Development Focus Group** Bill Wagner
 - Events in support with the Town's Local Development Corporation:
 - "Big Thunder Brewery" project approved by Town Board.
 - Pellicano's Groceries weighing the possibility of adding additional retail location within the Summit Mall property, replacing the grocery business that is vacating the space.
 - Briefed the attendees on the repayment and grant opportunities to attract future projects. Also, commented on the cooperation with the Niagara County Industrial Development Association.

- **Community Development** Richard Torcasio
 - Three (3) resident events for CY 2017 were introduced.
 - Advertising the events will start immediately.

- **Agriculture** R Muscatello for Karen Frieder
 - Summarized the US Air Force ICEMAP importance to the economic energy on the WNY Region.
 - Perusing the Town's Farm Protection law: measuring the importance of implementing the PDR concept.
 - Reviewed the WNY Land Conservancy proposal and its applicability on the PDR concept.
 - Both NIMAC and the Town are raising funds to conduct a professional farmland assessment.
 - Conversed extensively with John Brenan, NYS Ag & Markets, and will re-tool their initial approach.
 - The need for implementing an "Agriculture Zone" needs investigation. **Drew will supply examples.**

- **Greenspace** Joe Gargas
 - Evaluating the Park designation Law. A work in process.
 - Awaiting response from the Town's Planning Board before finalizing the proposed Base Map concept.

- **Veterans Memorial** Richard M for Ed Sturgeon
 - Committee still searching for a professional consultant to lead the fund raising process.
 - Trautman Associates resigned from its role in the project. Wendel agreed to pick up the project. The Town Board approved the change along with the small financial increase involved.
 - A bank account was created to receive and disburse monies involved. Two signatures are required.
 - Planning to eventually consolidate the current Memorial at the Highway Department with new one.

- **Disaster Planning** Richard Silvaroli
 - Working on activities to complement and update the existing Town Disaster Management Plan.
 - Actively soliciting volunteers.

Administrative Reports

- Focus group leaders, please submit list of inactive members to the Facilitator, at the end of this meeting.
- Read carefully the Recruiting & Retention Survey Results distributed by the Facilitator. **Come prepared at the April 27, 2017 meeting to share your opinions with the group. Thank you.**

Attendance:

Andrew Reilly	Art Gerbec	Richard W. Muscatello	Deb Bartolomeo
Richard Silvaroli	Rita Kontak	Robert Cliffe	Paul Lehman
Joe Gargas	Richard Torcasio	Joe Malloy	Don Proefrock
Bill Wagner	Larry Helwig		

Next Meeting Date & Time

Date: **April 27, 2017**

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (approximate)

Location: Town Community /Senior Citizen Center. Invite your focus group members.

Adjournment Motion

Art Gerbec

Motion made by B Wagner, Seconded by J Malloy, to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM. Motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Richard Torcasio, Task Force Secretary (Edited by Facilitator Richard W. Muscatello)

Notes: This summary will not be official until approved at the April 27, 2017 meeting



Agenda for April 27th Task Force meeting will arrive under separate cover. In the interim "forward and upward"

Distribution:

Town Supervisor

Task Force Members

Town Board Members

Focus Group Members

MIS Coordinator

Town Clerk

ZBA Chairperson

Focus Group Leaders

Thought for the Month:

"The only good is knowledge and the only evil is ignorance" ~ Author Unknown