

**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 3<sup>2017</sup>.
  - 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 27<sup>th</sup> 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*