

## **Meeting Notes**

Comprehensive Plan Assessment Committee (CPAC)

6PM, Monday, June 3, 2013, Town Hall Auditorium

Committee Members: David Barnet, James Booker, Jessica Brand, Joe Castiglione, Linda Jasinski, Edward Kleinke, Jill Knapp, Valerie Newell, John Privitera, Lee Rosen, Loretta Simon, Bruce Smith, Paul Tick, David VanLuven

Elected Officials & Town Staff: John Clarkson, John Smolinsky, Bill Reinhardt, Mike Morelli, George Leveille, Robert Leslie, Dan Coffey, Leah Farrell, Kathleen Reid

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## **Meeting Summary**

John Clarkson opened the meeting with the following announcements

- Mike Morelli, Director of Economic Development & Planning, will be retiring with thirty three years in government service at the City, Town, State and County level.
- The Citizen's Guide to Land Use, Planning and Development that is posted on the CPAC website is now in printed form for hand outs. The brochure gives a broad description of the process used for land use regulation.

Rob Leslie, Deputy Town Planner, reviewed with the Committee the Final Draft CPAC Report to be presented to the Town Board on the June 12, 2013 Town Board Meeting.

Discussions and statements provided by the Committee led to the following revisions to the Report:

### **INTRODUCTION:**

#### **CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY AND SUSTAINABLE BETHLEHEM (Page 2)**

- Further implement the Town's Climate Smart Community Pledge, *both mitigation and adaptation aspects.*

### **REPORT:**

#### **DEMOGRAPHIC & DEVELOPMENT TRENDS**

##### **Review of Comprehensive Plan's Goal to Achieve a Balanced Tax Base (Page 5)**

- The CPAC web site link will be inserted in place of "The Appendix" and the following language added; *contains a brief review of the current tax base and identifies potential non-residential growth that would be needed to help achieve a balanced tax base.*

## **CPAC FINDINGS AND ACTION AREAS**

**(Page 6; add the following language to the end of Action Item)**

- Within the discussion of hamlet areas burying of utility lines or reduction of lines/poles should be stated as a goal. The following language was added: *Addressing the visual environment along the edge of roadway is an important aspect of streetscape enhancements. In addition to freestanding decorative lighting fixtures and landscaping this also includes utility lines and poles. When the Town pursues investment in the streetscape improvements, utility lines and poles should be addressed with regard to replacement of cobra head lighting fixtures with ornamental/decorative lighting fixtures, pole consolidation, removal of excessive and unused lines, and consideration should be given to the burying of all utility lines (power, cable TV, phone, etc.). Additionally these items should be reviewed during redevelopment opportunities, as well.*

### **Additional Land Use Related Items**

**(Page 10; add the following bullet)**

- *As Town demographics change, development is proposed, and planning strategies are pursued, the costs and demands on public services should be assessed. Studies have shown that smart growth strategies have the potential to mitigate or reduce impacts on public services.*

### **Glenmont Areas Transportation Plan**

**(Page 11; revise the following)**

Funding approaches to implement the study may also be investigated such as:

(Add the following)

- *Utilization of the Town's authority to hire consultants at the developer's expense to prepare of review traffic studies associated with development.*
- *Development of a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) through funding advanced by the Town and recaptured through mitigation fees. All improvements identified in the GEIS to mitigate impacts could also be recaptured through mitigation fees.*

### **Collaborative Effort with NYSDOT**

**(Page 12; revise language to say)**

- *While discussing transportation issues, the Committee repeatedly became aware of the State's jurisdiction over the primary travel routes in Town, including but not limited to New Scotland Road, Delaware Avenue, Elsmere Avenue, Feura Bush Road, Kenwood Avenue (portion, Maple Avenue, etc. These roads, while maintained by the NYSDOT, traverse major population and destination areas of the Town and it is paramount importance for NYS to be responsive to the Town's vision plan for these corridors as outlined in Town studies and specifically the Town's Bicycle and Pedestrian Priority Network.*

### **Climate Smart Community and Sustainable Bethlehem**

**(Page 14; add following to language)**

- The Town should take action to adapt to climate change by undertaking assessment of the Town's key vulnerabilities to climate change, especially in relation to public infrastructure.

## **PARKS**

**(Page 14; add the following language)**

- *An example of amenity that may attract a greater number of park users is a boat launch for car top boats (canoes and kayaks) located at the northern end of Henry Hudson Park. This area could include a small parking lot for car top boats and a boat launch on sand in a small cove. The hard surface trailer boat launch at the Park is incompatible with canoes and kayaks.*

## **Local waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)**

**(Page 16; add bullet)**

- *Work with federal officials to obtain a commitment regarding a waterfront plan and public access for the Glenmont Job Corp lands along the Hudson River.*

## **Potential Action Items**

**(Page 20; add bullet)**

- *Develop and maintain a map that shows lands that have restrictions on development including recreation lands (parks), conservation lands, and lands with conservation easements. Of these lands public access and non-public access should be identified.*

The Committee discussed the above changes, and tasked Staff with revising the Report, which would be presented to the Town Board at their June 12, 2013 meeting.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mike Waldenmaier, Glenmont – Thanked the Committee, elected officials and staff stressing that the meetings were educational and hopefully watched by residents at home.

**The report will be presented to the Town Board at the Town Board Meeting on  
Wednesday, June 12, 2013 at 6 PM.**