

**Village of Pulaski/Town of Richland
Comprehensive Plan Committee September 2, 2021
In-person meeting
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Dawn Holynski, Shawn Doyle, Melissa Wadkinson, Jan Tighe, Robin Ford, Donna Gilson. Robin Philips
Excused: none

Guest: Amanda Mazzoni, CNY Regional Planning and Development Board

Minutes of the August 5th meeting; Moved by Melissa, 2nd by Shawn, all in favor, none opposed, carried.

Dawn suggested the committee change the format to a more formal process. She thought it would be best if we identify “action items” and have each member on record so there is no confusion later on as to the committee’s desires. Melissa moved, Jan seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Draft 3-Conceptual Zoning Updates: Melissa moves to accept the suggested changes made by land-use attorney, Frank Pavia. Donna 2nds the motion with a change on page 7 (a) 2nd sentence from bottom Consultat to Consult. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Dawn: now we can send to the Town and Village Board that we have reviewed, accepted (with one small edit) and recommend to the two boards for approval. The original copy was given to each board in November 2018. Donna said the Town has not yet seen the changes which will appear in the next packet. Dawn: There is a public hearing and SEQR form requirement for this to be approved, some discussion on the procedure. Dawn will let Supervisor, Dan Krupke, know this committee accepted the changes made by Frank Pavia. The Village and Town board meets on September 13 and 14 2021 respectfully. At that meeting the board should receive copies of Frank Pavia’s suggested changes. At the October meeting, it is this committee’s hope the board will hold a public hearing. When that public hearing closes, it is recommended the board votes and approves the changes pending approval of the SEQRA form. Graham Seiter, the Town attorney, had done the initial SEQRA for the Goals and Recommendations portion of the Comp Plan.

Past board actions: Dawn reminded the committee that in April of 2017 both the Village and Town approved two resolutions as a requirement to end the three-year grant Jeanie Gleisner, CNYRPDB facilitated. One resolution was to adopt the goals and recommendation updates to the Plan. The other document was working on the conceptual zoning update recommendations. Both resolutions resolved to work with the Comp Plan Working Committee and to “work closely with the municipal land use legal counsel”. April 10, 2017 Village approved the Comp plan actions, Town April 11, 2017.

Before leaving the meeting, Jan expressed her thoughts for the community solar initiative. Omni Renewable. Any savings will go towards the arches on the river trail. Village is going to apply for a preservation grant \$4,000 which will begin the assessment. Average of up to 10% off the individual bills, and Village will get money back that will go towards arches restoration.

Dawn mentioned NYSERDA is doing a feasibility study on lake wind turbines again. The study mentioned turbines as close as 13 miles out from shore. There are two projects off Long Island, NY that will be 20 and 60 miles from shore. Dawn wrote an email to the research committee and expressed the same concerns from 20+ years when NY Power Authority wanted to place turbines in Lake Ontario. The researcher replied that there is different criteria for lake and ocean turbine placements.

Amanda Mazzoni from CNY Regional Planning checked in at 6:26pm. She set up a slide show on the CEC, CSC Certification, and Grant opportunities. Town and Village have been in the Clean Energy Community program since 2016. Both Communities gained \$50,000 each in past for programs. Town—used for solar panels, LED lighting in the Hamlets of Fernwood and Richland. Village---used for street lighting conversion and sewage treatment pump replacement.

This year, NYSERDA launched leadership round, \$5,000 each. 1- NY Stretch energy code; 2-Community campaigns.

Stretch Code- new codes to require new stricter requirements. If municipality adopts, \$5,000 award. Village: not very interested right off.

Community Campaigns: Education campaigns, municipality would lead an education campaign advocating one technology type---such as solar the village is working on now, 5 sign ups so far., other three options are: 2- electric vehicles, partnership with local dealerships (tougher); 3-Clean heating and efficiency -partnership with heat smart CNY; 4-Demand response-signing up people to the utility programs for allowing the utility to control your thermostat (Shawn—There have been major issues with this in the south where utilities have regulated peoples thermostats remotely!)

Points awarded by scoring system. There are then 10k, 20k and 70k grants at stake. Shawn-How is scoring done? NYSERDA has points for each action. Richland has 5 actions, 1,200 pts earned. Code enforcement training done, no points awarded as it was old code pre 2020, new training in October 2021. Will be worth 200 points.

Village has 1,000 points so far.

The Town is looking at converting the pump station from propane to heat pump. Village looking at 6 items. (signed with Omni Renewable, community solar, benchmarking advanced reporting, EV Charging stations, decorative LED street light conversion, CSC certification effort.)

Climate Smart Community certification. (see slide) one action is a formally designated Climate Smart community Task force. **Shawn moved we ask Dawn to have the two municipalities to name us at the Climate Smart Task force also. Melissa 2nd, all in favor, none opposed. Carried. Note: we need when this is done to devote a section of our meeting to discussing this. Minutes submitted to (Amanda? NYSERDA?)**

Amanda said this is a good first start.

No specific grant upon climate smart community. But there are benefits that relate to other grants (it's a box checked off on a grant application!) Extra points awarded for other grant applications with this. Certified Bronze=600 points, Certified Silver=800 points. Thus, Clean Energy actions are Climate smart scorable!

Green House Gas GHG inventories. 1-Municipal operations 2-community. Amanda: This needs to be updated, over 5 years old. Part of this is acknowledging the state's new climate act.

Shawn asked why our inventories of 2020 were deficient, how can we re-do? Amanda said our work was a good narrative, but not the whole story. DEC does have some guidance on this. Fee for CNY RP would be \$4,000

Other programs: Village received Climate Action Grant for sidewalks to HS. Clean Fleets, LED Lighting. (Check Richland Hamlet Park lighting)

Shawn- question on irradiation of Invasive Species? Japanese Knotweed an issue here.

Some discussion on this.

Motion to adjourn at 7:30 by Donna, 2nd by Melissa 2nd all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawn Doyle