

Pulaski/Richland Comprehensive Plan Review Committee
Climate Smart Communities
In-person Meeting April 7, 2022
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
H. Douglas Barclay Court House

Present: Dawn Holynski, Shawn Doyle, Melissa Wadkinson, Jan Tighe, Robin Philips, Robin Ford.
Excused: Donna Gilson

The meeting was called to order by chairperson, Dawn Holynski, at 6:02pm.

Minutes: The minutes of the March 3, 2022 meeting were approved on motion by Melissa, and seconded by Robin Ford, all were in favor, none opposed, motion was carried.

Goal Updates: Dawn had sent out updated Comp plan goals and sent to both the Town and the Village for their review prior to their April meeting. Dawn explained that at the Village and Town April meetings the boards will have reviewed the edits of Dave Turner's recommendations. At the April meetings the boards should set a public hearing and vote on the amended document at their May meeting.

Conceptual Zoning Updates document and Town Zoning Ordinance: John Howland, town zoning officer, asked Dawn for contact information of Frank Pavia (land use attorney) our committee used to review the Conceptual Zoning Updates document. The Town is seeking Frank's help in reviewing and recommending updates to the Town's zoning ordinance. Dawn mentioned to John that this would be a good time to incorporate language into the zoning ordinance of the conservation subdivision design (CSD) our committee has strongly recommended and passed by both Village and Town boards.

Dawn contacted Frank to ask him when he works on the Town zoning ordinance, to incorporate the wording from the CSD wording.

Dawn believes having the CSD in with the zoning ordinance would be convenient for the zoning officer to implement the wishes of the Town Board

Dawn has discussed this idea of adding the CSD into the zoning ordinance with Jeanie Gleisner. She believes this would be good idea.

Jeanie volunteered to come and meet with the Comprehensive Plan committee, mayor, supervisor, planning and zoning boards, Village and Town board members to discuss why the CSD is important and answer any questions the group may have. Jeanie also thought finding a large undeveloped parcel outside the village edge would be a good visual sight for her to explain and visualize just what a conservation design would look like. Dawn will set up a date with Jeanie to come if we can get the planning and zoning committee members to attend, that would ultimately be the ones who would work with a potential developer.

Climate Smart Communities:

The Town and Village were awarded bronze distinction.

Dawn said this is great news, but how do we get to the silver status. Jan said the next level is silver (1,200) points would be a zoning law for energy efficient buildings. Another big one is a community solar campaign. Newer campaign encourages all in, and people must opt out, PSC is finishing revisions to this.

Jan noted how she built their house with 1980s smart energy efficiency. It has paid off well. Shawn said we should seek input from how it is working in Tully. Dawn will contact Amanda regarding the bronze distinction and what can we do to get to the silver level

Revisions to the Climate Action Plan: A year ago this committee had sought information from nonprofit organizations and businesses on what they have done to improve energy efficiency. The list was sent to Amanda Mazzoni, CNY Regional Planning Development Board, as a tool to update the Climate Action Plan 2016. At that time Amanda felt that there wasn't anything measurable to change what is currently in the Plan, but she did believe what has been done is a good step and should be noted as a narrative in the Plan. Dawn will contact Amanda regarding changes in the Plan that should be noted.

Jan reported that the Village will host a speaker at their May 9th meeting at 7:15 pm. The topic will be on forming buying groups for solar power purchases.

Jan spoke on different experienced the Village has had with the utilities and Selkirk Landing.

Shawn asked about the Salina St. projects. They are looking at Hotel on Fireman field, not flood zone.

The former bowling alley might become a microbrew.

The Tollner block (old Mexican Restaurant) no proposals so far.

Fernwood Methodist church, built in 1858, has closed. The District Superintendent came and took the deed. At that time, Dawn asked if the deed could be returned or scanned for which history certainly has been made. Dawn will supply Shawn with that scanned document when available for the Half-Shire archives.

New owners of Betts house (old Sashes and Lace) evicted tenants, to be now an Air B & B.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm by Jan, seconded by Melissa, all in favor, none opposed.

Next meeting is Thursday May 5, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Shawn Doyle and Dawn Holynski