

Newfield Planning Board Meeting Minutes – Approved

January 7, 2015

In Attendance:

- **Planning Board:** Nancy Dolge (Chair), Tom Gerow, Karen Trask
- **Absent:** René Borgella, without notice
- **Secretary:** Barbara Tefft
- **Also in attendance:** Keri Blakinger, Newfield News, Scott Smith

Meeting called to order, 7:01 pm, Newfield Town Hall.

Minutes of December 17, 2014:

Motion to Approve: Karen

Second: Tom

Discussion: Tom said to add clarification to Nancy's statement regarding road preservation law.
Other minor edits

Approval: Unanimous, with changes.

New Business:

- Attendance – Nancy has not heard from René regarding his availability to attend meetings. This is the third consecutive meeting he has missed. Nancy will call Katie to see what the situation is with René.
- Nancy's term is up in May 2015 and is unsure of the level of her future involvement at this time.
- New Planning Board Member Search:
 - Need to have an agriculture representative on the Planning Board. Not sure if current member Tom Gerow's forestry career meets that requirement. Town Board Supervisor Jeff Hart thinks a more traditional farm ag member is required and wants it clarified.
- Chris Laughlin, Town Board member, is no longer doing the Storm Water Management job, Karen Trask from Planning Board is now doing it and is attending a training on January 27, 2015.

Old Business:

- Tom wrote a letter to the DEC regarding the Unit Management Plan for Cliffside and Newfield State Forests
- Nancy and Karen met regarding finalizing the Community Service brochure. Will have copies made in the next few days and distribute 100 copies around the Town and give files to Linda Poppleton to post on Town website.

Land Use Tools: Action Step 1, Newfield Comprehensive Plan

- Nancy is looking for grants, possibly through Cleaner Greener Southern Tier Regional Sustainability Plan link
- Will speak with Joan Jurkowich about grants. Will need to find a consultant in near future regarding Land Use Tools, applications in heavy industry.
- Karen has not made contact with Danby yet regarding participation in a roundtable training session. Nancy suggested contacting the Danby Town Clerk regarding getting in touch with their Planning Board.

- Date needs to be set for roundtable training session.
- **Dryden** – Nancy and Tom met with Jane Nicholson before she resigned. Dryden's comprehensive plan was written between 1999-2005. Since 1995? regulations require an approved comprehensive plan before implementing land use regulation.
 - Dryden created a hamlet plan for Varna. Jane worked 18 months on Varna Hamlet Plan as one of two paid planners.
 - Dryden has zoning law for the Town, which is the strongest tool, and site plan review.
 - Zoning suggestions – decide on zones first, then apply to map
 - Dryden has own Right to Farm Law
 - Provided for review a list of other towns similar to Newfield: Newark Valley, Smyrna, DeRuyter. Advised not including similar Adirondack hamlets, as there are different regulations in the Park.
 - Monika Roth works on Ag & Markets grants

Draft of Recommendations to Town Board

re: Moratoriums, Heavy Industry, Waste Management Facilities:

- Review of Local Ordinances
- Opening statement needs to clearly state recommendations based on Comprehensive Plan
- Review of Findings, Conclusions, Recommendations from Planning Board to Town Board
- Review of State and Federal Regulations, findings conclusions
- Investigation of other local Land Use Tools, conclusions
- Planning Board members dividing up Comprehensive Plan chapters to find supportive quotes that will guide and inform direction in creating Land Use Regulation
 - Karen: Chapter 4,5; Action Steps 1, 20
 - Nancy: Chapter 14, 12; Action Steps 2, 5
 - Tom – Chapter 3, 15; Section 3 intro; Action Step 7

To Do:

- Recruitment of new Planning Board member
- Karen Trask – contact Danby to participate in training
- Karen Trask – finish Community Organization brochure layout, submit final of spiral bound to Linda Poppleton to post on Town website
- Date for training to be scheduled
- Determine who will be hosting and running the meeting
- All review assigned Comprehensive Plan chapters and note quotes applicable to development of Land Use Regulation

Next Newfield Planning Board Meeting is, January 21, 2015 at 7:00pm at the Newfield Town Hall. Regular bimonthly meetings will be held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month.

Motion to Adjourn: Tom

Second: Karen

Approval: Unanimous

Meeting Adjourned: 8:50 pm

Addendum: Letter submitted to DEC by Newfield Planning Board

Members of the UMP Planning Committee;

On behalf of the Newfield Planning Department, we would like to thank you for the opportunity to give input into the long term planning for the Cliffside and Newfield State Forests.

The Newfield Planning Board was created by legislation adopted by the Town Board in 2007. The first Newfield Comprehensive Plan was unanimously adopted by the Newfield Town Board on September 12, 2013. This seminal Plan was submitted to the Town Board after five years of hard work by the original members of the Planning Board and with extensive input from the Newfield community. The Plan is a living document, intended to be revised at regular intervals, providing a shared community vision and direction for the future of Newfield. The Newfield Planning Board is now charged with maintaining this document and guiding this vision toward reality under the direction of the Town Board.

The Cliffside and Newfield State Forests lie all or in part in the Town of Newfield. In the Newfield CP these forests are mentioned a number of times in respect to the things Newfielders value in their town: rural character, healthy environment, open space, recreational opportunities, scenic beauty and wise use of our natural resources for economic benefit.

More specifically, there are two pertinent sections in the CP that we would like to bring to the attention of the DEC at this stage of the UMP development: Chapter 3; Natural Areas, Geology and wildlife and Chapter 15; Agriculture and Forestry. In these chapters there are a number of areas we would like to bring to your attention and ask your consideration while developing the UMPs for Cliffside and Newfield SF:

Chapter 3, Natural Areas, Geology and Wildlife

The "Vision" detailed on page 20 which points to "...responsible use of the town's natural resources for economic development and recreation that will contribute to sustaining Newfield as a healthy rural community."

"Key Points" and "Public Opinion" talk about some of the threats to the local forests and the importance of the forests to the people of Newfield.

On page 23 the "Auger Hole" is referred to as a Unique Natural Area of particular concern in the Cliffside State Forest.

On pages 24-25 the contribution and importance of the State Forests to Newfielders are highlighted.

On page 26 goals, objectives and related action items are identified which are fully described and deserve consideration during the UMP development.

Chapter 15, Agriculture and Forestry

On page 117, The “Vision” again discusses the importance of the health of our forestland and open space.

On page 122 the importance of a vibrant forest products industry, contiguous forest and recreation based enterprises are reinforced.

Chapter15 (con’t)

On pages 126-127 the goals, objectives and related Action items further identify areas of importance in working forests, forest industry, open space goals and actions to move them forward in the future.

In addition to the individual sections of the CP; Appendix 1: Action Implementation Guide, which starts on page 133; describes specific suggestions on how to meet the 122 objectives identified in the CP. This section discusses “Interested parties”, “Objectives to Meet” and a “Description” of each action item.

Throughout the CP forests are described as an integral part of everyday life in Newfield. The management of the local state forests dovetail into the fabric of the community and we look forward to seeing the Goals, Objectives and Actions described in Newfield’s Comprehensive Plan woven throughout the UMP.

For a more in depth look at Newfield’s plan, it is available online at: www.newfieldny.org. Thank you for reaching out to the local communities and your consideration of our ideals in the future of the Cliffside and Newfield State Forests.

Respectfully;

Nancy Dolge, Chairperson

Newfield Planning Board

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