

New Lebanon Planning Board
Comprehensive Planning Committee

Meeting Minutes

June 27, 2002

The Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC) held its second meeting on Thursday, June 27, 2002. The meeting was conducted in the Town Hall. The meeting started at 7:10 P.M. and ended at 9:40 P.M.

Present at the meeting were Committee members P. Rawson, D.Mieschonz, T.Benson, J.Yurish as well as new members, K.Ross, D.Clark, M. Lankin, P.Wheeler. Unable to attend was new member, J.Dax.

The agenda for the session was established as follows:

- ?? Review of consultant status**
- ?? Review of funding**
- ?? Greenway funding application**
- ?? Comp. Plan Com. member composition**
- ?? Discussion & definition of overall Comp. Plan.
(CP) process**

To start the meeting, new members were brought up to date on the overall CP process to date and were provided copies of the Preliminary Vision statement and Objectives.

Consultant Status:

Following the overall update, everyone was brought up to date on consultant status. It was indicated that in view of the general concern regarding complications of dealing with DBS Planning Consultants (their requirement that they operate as a team for planning, legal, and engineering) we should proceed to our next choice, working with Nan Stolzenburg (Community Planning & Environmental Associates) of Berne, N.Y. D.Clark indicated that he knew S. Kirk of DBS mostly as a grant/proposal writer and that we might consider him in that role in the future, if necessary, especially as it relates to Small Cities funding.

Funding:

Regarding funding, discussion revolved around filing of a request for Greenway funding. The next submission period is before August 25, 2002 for consideration in September. This must be a high priority and will be completed prior to the next CPC meeting. J.Yurish will take this as an action to be pursued. Other funding opportunities (e.g. Small Cities) will be identified and pursued also. The CPC will have to designate a member to oversee this responsibility.

CPC Member Composition:

There was much discussion surrounding the member composition of the CPC. Overall it is felt that 12-18 official members is desirable. The optimum number is more in the 12-15 range. Additional members (for specific projects) could become involved as adjunct members, on an as needed basis.

Diversity of membership and widespread inclusion was discussed as very important issues in achieving adequate representation for all sectors of the community and the eventual acceptance of the effort by the Community. All members present were in agreement on this issue. As a result, the Committee brainstormed a listing of potential additional members and assignments were made for follow-up in recruiting additional members. (See action items).

Discussion of Overall CP Process:

The Committee discussed in detail the overall process for pursuing the Comprehensive Plan e.g. Communication Process, Questionnaire, Public Involvement, Other Data Needs (demographics, mapping, housing, land use, economic issues, etc.). A series of brainstorming activities were focused on these issues and will be furnished to members, under separate cover, at the next meeting. Primary discussion centered on the need to effectively communicate with the Community, and the web is seen as an important component of the overall process. In this regard, K. Ross volunteered to establish contact with the person in the school system who oversees the web and to determine requirements for establishing our own CPC website. Actions regarding the web are reflected in the action items.

Regarding the overall CP process and timetable, it was decided to attempt to complete the overall schematic for the process at the next CPC meeting. To this end, N. Stolzenburg will be invited and asked to come prepared to assist in laying this out in the shortest time possible. J.Yurish will contact her in this regard.

ACTON ITEMS:

?? Contact N.Stolzenburg re next meeting & invite her to it.

Responsibility: J.Yurish

Timing: By 7-9-02

?? Begin pursuit of Greenway funding.

Responsibility: J.Yurish

Timing : By 7-9-02

?? Begin inquiry and process regarding establishment of a website for the CPC process.

Responsibility: K. Ross

Timing: By 7-9-02

?? Determine how/what method Philmont used to generate high initial interest in their CP process.

Responsibility: D. Mieschonz

Timing: By 7-9-02

?? Think about the overall communication process for the CP and try to identify someone (possibly a professional who would volunteer) who could aid us/coordinate this process for/with the CPC.

Responsibility: All members

Timing: 7-9-02

?? Begin the recruitment of additional members as follows:

?? K. Ross (Dercy, Glenn & Mary Jane Gonia)

?? M.Lankin (B. Godfroy & a Darcy)

?? D. Mieschonz (F.Potter & G. Murray)

?? D. Clark (Darrow-N. Wolf, the Arthurs)

?? P. Rawson (C. Douger)

?? J.Yurish (Fire volunteer)

Timing: 7-9-02

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday July 9, 2002 @ 7:00P.M @ the Town Hall. It was asked that any new members who will have been recruited by then appear at 6:00 P.M. in order to have them brought up to date prior to the start of the formal meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

J.L.Yurish