

## MEETING SUMMARY – October 29, 2014 MEETING

### TOWN OF LANSING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE COMMITTEE

**Members Present:** Thomas Butler; Susan Miller; Sarah Thomson; Ruth Hopkins; Larry Beck; Maureen Cowen; Jase Baese; Daniel Adinolfi; Philip Snyder

**Others Present:** Michael Long, AICP, Planning Consultant; Joseph Sheppard, Planning Assistant; Mike Catsos, Design Connect; Joe Wetmore; Karen Edelstein; Ed Levine, Lansing Town Board

Planning Consultant Mike Long called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

**Introductions/ Announcements:** Went around the table and made introductions. Mike from Design Connect provided a handout outlining transportation issue assessment.

**Minutes:** Ruth Hopkins was present at the last meeting, this was not noted on the last meeting minutes. Sarah stated that a Town Center plan is NOT close to finish, as the previous minutes reflected.

**Comprehensive Plan Members:** We went around the table deciding who on the list is still actually on the committee. Gerald Friedman is no longer a member of the comprehensive plan committee. An email went out to everyone on the list, no one responded saying they were not actually interested in being involved.

#### **Committee Assignments:**

- Confirmed committee assignments.
- Tom requested the presence of both Joe Wetmore and Karen Edelstein onto the Natural Resource Sub Committee.
- Ruth posed the question of who from the community with expertise can we peg to join the committee. Mike noted that the planning board appointed members of the Comprehensive Planning Committee.
- Tom asked about sub committee membership and it was stated that concerned members of the community could contribute to the sub-committee.
- Discussion of the completeness of the Hamlets and Proposed Town Center report took place.
  - Sarah requested the input of a Historian.
- Tom Butler and Dave Nicholson should be added to the Energy and Climate Change committee.
- Discussion took place as to the involvement of the Agriculture Committee, namely Skip Hardy and Monica Roth.
- It was noted that Historic Resources, and Cultural Resources should be combined.
- Mike stated that he hoped Design Connect and Cornell University would assemble the Transportation section.

- A question was posed as to the organizational structure of the community and if this area should be discussed with the community.
  - It was discussed that the website should have some sort of reference to this structure and it should be directed to in the plan.
- The definition of municipal services and infrastructure was discussed.
  - Mike stated that he would likely have to focus on this section and that he is meeting with County representatives.
  - He stated his view is that Municipal Services represents “Bricks and Mortars” and where development should take place and what type of development should occur.
  - Daniel Adinolfi was appointed chair of the Municipal Services and Infrastructure Committee.
- An inventory of Community Services provided has been created and should not necessarily be a part of the plan, but instead added as an appendix with a direct to the website.
- It was discussed that a constantly updated list of Community Services must be kept.
- It was noted the purpose of the plan is to update Zoning ordinances, which is why a list of provided Community Services might not be appropriate or necessary.
- It was also noted that the Comp Plan should discuss where the growth is, what kind of growth, and how to achieve it.
- A discussion of current Comp Plan documents was had and how members felt these were documents were in completion.
- It was noted by Joe Wetmore that there is no mention of Public Meeting suggestions and he noted that it would be an appropriate addition to the document list.

**Report out of 5 Major Topics By Each Committee:** Discussion by Chairs of their major points.

- Land Use and Development:
  - Gas Drilling should be merged with this committee.
    - Part of Heavy Industry
  - The Document that Tom sent out is the most recent combination of 3/5 document with added public comments
  - Included in the bullet pointed list is basis of document, including summary notes from public hearing.
  - A question was posed as to whether or not the Village should be included as apart of this Comp Plan.
  - Should Heavy Industry be included in this list,
  - A discussion took place as to the inclusion of Economic Development into each category.
  - A discussion occurred as to what maps were complete by Jonathan
    - It was noted that there is a zoning map, economic map, and road map
    - Mike and Joe are meeting with the County tomorrow (10/30) to discuss available maps to include into the plan and what are the costs

- The Committee noted that they have several maps, specifically Monica.
  - Mike is going to request the county provide maps that are the same scale and size
- Discussion that the plan should include a section which explains why local zoning changes may happen
  - It was noted that these changes will happen overtime as part of the legislative process and not as part of the comprehensive plan. The plan is merely advisory in guiding changes.
  - It was also noted that the work of the committee is to develop the plan and that the board will adopt, or revise the plan.
- Hamlets & Town Center
  - Sarah looked at Tompkins County plan and established major points.
  - Remarked Survey stated that the community feels there should be a Town Center
  - Traffic Study is Key to the Town Center
  - Noted that Survey outlined things Town Center needed to include
    - Mixed Used Housing
    - Environmental and Community sustainability
    - Fiscal Responsibility
    - Paying Attention to Green Infrastructure
    - Controlling Sprawl
    - Town Center and Development needs to take Green Development into Consideration
    - Bike Lanes
    - Walking Lanes
    - Town Center should be interconnected
  - Town Center should meet these goals
  - It was noted that incentives could be offered to developers to meet the goals of the community that may exceed the goals of the State.
  - Discussion occurred as to the appropriateness of a Town Center
    - Should underdeveloped properties be looked at as opposed to developing new land as part of Comp Plan?
    - Section needs to look at existing infrastructure and how it can be developed/ redeveloped.
    - What does Town Center actually mean to the Community?
    - Sarah posed a question as to what happens to the land that is planned for the Town Center that is owned by the Town if the Center is not built?
    - A suggestion was made to look at underdeveloped areas examining infrastructure and where to put sewage, water, etc.
    - Daniel noted that no matter what, development is going to happen and that intelligent planning needs to happen as to what is going to happen in the area and that this section needs to address this planning aspect.
- Transportation
  - Mike from Design Connect reported the scope of their project

- Design Connect Focus will cover three main topics
- Will not be able to be placed in Comp Plan as envisioned
- Will most likely look at current problems and anticipated problems
- Discussion as to how to utilize current resources to eliminate some car traffic
  - Utilizing TCAT
    - Increasing Runs Into the Town
    - Who Pays for It?
  - Waterways
  - Rail

**Miscellaneous:**

- It was noted by Karen Approximately 50% of the Blue Forms have been completed for Ludlowville. It is believed that Donna at Federal House has them. There has been a large amount of work done with respect to the Historic Resources. It was noted however that these forms may be too old, but still worth looking into.
- Could the committee chairs please email their issue outlines to Mike [mlongaicp@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:mlongaicp@twcnny.rr.com) and Joe [jt\\_shepp@icloud.com](mailto:jt_shepp@icloud.com)
- A folder will be created and a link shared at the next meeting which allows easier access to the earlier draft documents that Mike referred to in his meeting packet.

**Next Steps:** Discussion as to what should be done next, more discussion or creation of some documentation. It was decided that a document should begin to be compiled. Major themes of document: transportation, housing, economic development, land use.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday November 12, 2014 @ 7:00pm Lansing Town Hall Board Room

Meeting Adjourned By Mike Long, AICP, Planning Consultant at 9:15 pm.

Prepared by Joseph Sheppard