

**Town of Stamford  
Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee  
(CPAC)  
Monthly Meeting Agenda  
November 23, 2009**

1. Call to order
2. Approval of Minutes from September 23, 2009
3. Approval of Minutes from October 28, 2009
4. Old Business
  - a. Review and discussion of survey questions  
(survey is planned to be sent at the beginning of 2010)
    - i. Town of AuSable
    - ii. Town of Berne
    - iii. Town of Ancram
  - b. Review and discussion of various research projects as determined at the meeting of September (see September minutes.)
5. New Business

Stamford Comprehensive Plan Committee

Minutes for September 23, 2009

In attendance: Harry Nissen, Paula Nissen, Kelly Keck, Lorrie Ziek, Deborah Grant, Nancy Haycock, Lorelle Phillips, Brooke White, Jean Kopp, Jim Kopp, John Houshmand, Nathan Kanarek

Consultant: Nan Stolzenburg

1. Committee Operations and Organization

Minutes:

Minutes will be taken by Nancy Haycock who will send them to all members by email listserv. The listserv will be set up by Nan Stolzenburg.

At the next regular meeting, minutes will be corrected/approved and then posted to the website.

Minutes will follow the agenda and capture the broad discussion items and decisions that are made at meetings.

Agenda:

The agenda will be forwarded to all committee members, as well as posted on the website several days in advance of each meeting so interested community members will know what is going to be discussed that evening.

The agenda will be jointly set by the committee and Nan .

Lorie will speak to Mike Triolo to find out how items can be posted on the town's website. If this proves to be too complicated, Nan Stolzenburg said a link could be set up on her site for our information.

Meeting Time:

The third Wednesday of the month was chosen as the regular meeting time, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (This was, I think, subsequently changed to the fourth Wednesday of the month.)

Publicity:

Nan will draft all press releases and then Kelly will place them in the Shopper and the Mountain Eagle, notifying people of the committee's work as we go forward.

Cancellation of meetings:

Cancellation will be done by email to members.

Use of sub-committees:

It was decided that sub-committees would be formed when there were topics that lend themselves to smaller group work, but otherwise the entire group will be involved.

## 2. First Tasks: Data Collection

### Profile Information:

We decided that we would try to complete Profile Information by December. At the meeting, we divided up research as follows:

Local & Regional History – Harry and Paula Nissen

Development Patterns – Lorelle Phillips

Cultural & Historic Resources & Museums – John Houshman

Libraries – Kelly Keck

Local Historic Sites, National and State Sites, Designated Scenic Areas – Lorie Ziek

Volunteer & Nonprofit Organizations – Nathan Kanarek

Land Trusts, Historic Preservation Organizations – Brooke White

Watershed Protection Organizations – Nan Stolzenburg

Local Chamber of Commerce – Jim Kopp

Highway Maintenance & County Highways and Roads – Harry Nissen

Municipal Property and Building Maintenance, Town Owned Lands – wait for maps

Infrastructure (Public Water, Public Sewer) -- Jim and Jean Kopp

Emergency Services – Nancy Haycock

Solid Waste & Utilities – Debbie Grant

School Districts – Nathan Kanarek

Economy – Lorie Ziek and Jim Kopp

Local Government – see website

Other Inform Relevant – Jim Kopp

We need to obtain a copy of Hobart Village 's Comprehensive plan, as well as Stamford Village 's Plan.

Survey:

It was decided that we would send a survey to all households in town in early January. Property tax rolls would be used to ensure that second home owners were included. This written survey will explore how people feel about the town, and give everyone an opportunity to have input into the work of the Committee. The Committee will design the survey, and then Nan will have a mailing house handle the logistics. We will not provide return postage, but we will enable people to fill out the survey on line if they would prefer that. Nan felt we could get a 30% response rate to a short survey. The survey would be used to publicize the planning workshop which will be held in late January or February.

The workshop would be organized into groups of 6-8 people who would work on identifying Stamford 's strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats that residents perceive. It would culminate in a vision statement for the town. A good turn-out would be about 50 people.

Nan will email Committee members samples of surveys.

3. Next Meeting:

It was decided to invite the Town Board and the Town Planning Committee to the next meeting in October so that we would get their input in the earliest stage.

Nan will email to us the kinds of questions that she will be asking at that meeting. The first hour of the meeting will be devoted to this discussion, and the second half will focus on the Profile Information that we are collecting.

Stamford Comprehensive Plan Committee  
Minutes for October 28, 2009

In attendance: Beth Adams, Lorie Ziek, Nancy Haycock, Deborah Grant, Kelly Keck, Lorelle Phillips, Mike Triolo, Mary Betz, Ladd McKenzie, Kristin Janke  
Consultant: Nan Stolzenburg

1. Committee Organization

It was decided that minutes will be sent just to committee members, then approved at the following meeting, after which they will be forwarded by Kelly (in PDF format) to Mike Triolo who will get them to the Webmaster for inclusion on Stamford's website.

It was decided to ask committee members who have not attended regularly if they plan to stay on the committee so that we don't waste time having to go over issues for members who have missed meetings.

2. Issues for the Planning Board

The Planning Board really has no major issue at the moment. There have been no large subdivisions in years.

Issues mentioned were: a need for affordable housing to give people options other than single family homes; and NYC watershed issues, especially the stringent septic requirements.

A decision was made to track subdivision requests over the past 20 years.

3. Issues for the Stamford Board

--a sewer district for South Kortright is being studied. A perc test is being conducted. There are a significant number of houses in violation of septic rules. The work would be paid for by NYC.

--the shortage of affordable housing. The last major affordable housing in the area was 40 years ago. Housing has become more and more expensive, and many people say they cannot afford to buy a house in Stamford. There is especially a shortage of rental housing.

--the feasibility of a biodiesel plant in South Kortright is being studied. The Forestry Service has given the town a grant to study this.

--dairy farmers are struggling more and more, and cannot afford to pay higher expenses without going out of business.

--There is a very limited amount of land available for development.

--The trail system could be developed more to encourage tourism – hiking and biking.

--Countywide there is a shortage of volunteers for emergency services. We may have to go to a paid/volunteer system because we cannot recruit enough people to serve.

--There is a lack of public transportation.

--It has not been possible to attract broadband service to our area because companies say they cannot earn enough income here.

--Recently a grant to construct an assisted living (60 unit) complex has been awarded, and that is likely to bring 30-40 new jobs to Stamford.

- The SEQRA process is underway to study the environmental impact of the proposed wind turbines that would be sited in Stamford and Roxbury.
- DEC is studying the possible ramifications of gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale. All of Stamford is within the watershed.
- Cellphone service continues to be spotty, and Verizon is less and less interested in land lines in rural areas.
- The Emergency Broadcasting system is 30 years old, and would take some \$20 million dollars to upgrade and revise.

#### 4. Draft Press Release Announcing the Committee's Work

Nan Stolzenburg circulated a draft of a press release, and two changes were proposed. Nan will incorporate the suggestions and then Kelly will send it out to all newspapers in the area.

#### 5. Dates for Next Meetings

It was decided that due to the holidays, we will change the November and December meeting dates. In November we will meet on November 23, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. In December we will meet on December 30, from 6:30-8:30. In January, we will resume meeting on the fourth Wednesday of the month, which will be January 27.

#### 6. Planning Workshop Date

It was decided that Nancy would call Virginia Brockway to find out what Saturdays are available in January and February at the Hobart Community Center for our workshop. The target time would be around 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 pm. so that everyone in the community could attend.

#### 7. Mail Survey

Nan forwarded several samples of surveys from other towns for us to study. Before the November meeting, everyone agreed to look the surveys over and suggest five questions that might be included on the mail survey. At the November meeting we will discuss the survey design as well as the research everyone has been doing since the September assignments were made.