

## **Village of Rhinebeck Comprehensive Plan Committee – March 24, 2022**

Notes from meeting at Village Hall, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

**Approved 6/16/22**

### **Core Committee Members Attending**

Matt Johnston, Chair	Shea Dean	Elijah Bender	Lisa Fountain
Eleanor Pupko	Jeff Cotter	John Clarke	Deirdre Burns
Steve Rosenberg	Ernesto Martyneck		
Lydia Slaby, Village Board liaison			

Absent: Heather Cassano, Louis Turpin, Tim Decker

### **Meeting Roles**

Faciliator, Matt Johnston  
Liaison, Lydia Slaby  
Timekeeper, Michael Slaby  
Notetaker, Lisa Fountain

### **Welcome/Introductions**

We each spent a few minutes introducing ourselves; Why did we choose to serve? What are we bringing to the process?

### **Subcommittees**

Six subcommittees have been established: 1) Civic Engagement and Community Values 2) Historic Preservation 3) Population and Business Ecosystems 4) Housing 5) Transportation and Mobility 6) Land Use, Community Resources and Ecological Regeneration. Each section of the 1993 Comprehensive Plan was assigned to one of the subcommittees.

Each subcommittee should meet at least once prior to the next meeting on April 21, 2022.

There are three major phases of the project:1) Spring - listening and learning; outreach to hear all voices 2) Summer - more engagement, but a focus on understanding the issues 3) Fall - document should be in the writing stage

### **Planner**

Update on hiring a planner was given. RFP released, proposals due on April 1.

### **Community Conversations**

The concept of Community Conversations was introduced. These are events where a topic of relevance to the community is discussed at length by perhaps a panel of people where there is ample opportunity for brainstorming, Q&A, comment, etc.

Matt raised the issue that the Village Board has asked the Comprehensive Plan Committee to have the topic of outdoor dining be one of the first things discussed. He raised the idea of

having outdoor dining be the first community conversation. Luciano Valdivia, general manager of Market Street presented a proposal. It was discussed.

To confirm our commitment to walkability, the Main Committee discussed moving the venue from Co. to a more central location that was more accessible via sidewalks. Also, the point was made that the notice of the meeting should not make it appear as if the Main Committee were taking a stand on the issue and the round table must present a balanced view.

The entire room was invited to brainstorm topics, the following ideas were proposed:

- Affordability & Housing
- Natural Resources & Ecology (co-hosted with the Natural Resources Inventory)
- Art & Culture (co-hosted with Sinterklaas)
- Walkability/Sidewalks/Traffic Calming/Biking
- Parks/Open Spaces/Pocket Parks
- How to make Rhinebeck more welcome to a diverse population? How not to turn into the Hamptons?
- Elder Housing/how do we keep elders in their homes?
- Historic District/Historic Preservation
- Futurism – what will we look like in 50 years?
- Youth/Community Center

Matt ended the meeting on schedule at 8:30pm. The next meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2022.