

Planning Board Meeting
July 15, 2015

Present: Jim Ely, Chairman
Ann Jacobs
Mike Staub
Bessie Tyrrell
Mary Ann Bachman
Ralph Endres
Rodney Terminello
Anne Caprini

Absent: Ann Marie Rotter

The meeting of the Town of South Bristol Planning Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. All board members were present with the exception of Ann Marie Rotter.

Board member, Ann Jacobs, then read the Comprehensive Plan Vision Statement.

Chairman Ely called for a motion to approve the June 17, 2015 minutes as written. Mike Staub made said motion which was seconded by Ann Jacobs. The motion was unanimously accepted by all board members, with the exception of Ralph Endres, Rodney Terminello and Anne Caprini, who did not vote, as they were absent at that meeting.

Old Business

Docking and Mooring Law

Chairman Ely: Let me take a few moments to bring you up-to-date on a number of things that may be of interest. I spent much of this morning attending a 'technical meeting' involving the uniform docking and mooring law. There were such luminaries there as our Town Attorney, Jeff Graff; Maria Rudzinski, from County Planning; our Town Supervisor, Barbara Welch; Kevin Olvany and many others including your humble servant.

The idea, I believe, was to review docking and mooring, specifically with the Everwilde proposal in mind. This grew out of a lakeside tour that some members of the Town Board took, to view the property to actually walk on the property in part, with Engineers. They had a number of questions and concerns

based on that, so they wanted to touch base with the Town Attorney and Maria to get further input as to how they might respond.

EVERWILDE

The SEQR review process is continuing. The Town Board has not yet received the necessary forms back from Everwilde, so the docking and mooring review is really in the way of getting prepared.

INVITATION- MARIA RUDZINSKI

Now, I did, however, while I was there, take occasion to pursue a topic which has been of interest to several board members, which is whether we can arrange a presentation about docking and mooring right here. I asked Maria Rudzinski if she might be kind enough to come here to our August meeting. She indicated that her calendar seemed clear and she would get back to me. I followed up my verbal invitation with a written email invitation. So, I hope I can report to you that she will come to our August meeting. She was instrumental in drafting it and knows the law pretty well. I think most of us will agree we could use a refresher on that.

TOWN BOARD MEETING- SPEED LIMIT/STRUCTURES/LOT COVERAGE

Let me also mention at the Town Board meeting this past Monday—several of you were there—that it was a good night. Mary Ann Bachman told me it was a pretty good night for the old Planning Board. Let me briefly summarize:

The speed limit recommendations were adopted by the Town Board and have been sent on to the State and to the County. Apparently, they have to review it, even though it's our town road. The Town Board did what they could.

Ralph Endres: I put an addendum to each one. One was a bullet-point presentation on Seneca Point Road and actually one was a narrative on Hicks Road as to the reasons why it should be done. They didn't have any place to put it, so I said just attach it so when DOT on Jefferson Road in Henrietta looks at it, they know someone with some expertise has looked at it and has said these are the reasons why it should be lowered.

Chairman Ely: Moving on with my brief, good news report--our redefinition of Lot Coverage was adopted. That step completes action on that proposal. The public hearing was completed and they voted it through.

Our redefinition of structures has been sent to county for their review and that has been scheduled for an August public hearing, as I understand it. I have every reason to believe that it will go through.

The public hearing on coverage lasted about 60 seconds. No one really knew it.

Ralph Endres: To tell you the truth, that was probably the most important thing that was going to be done. There was no one there to really do anything about it.

Chairman Ely: The most important thing and the Town Board got through it in one minute.

Ralph Endres: A lot of the people that live on Seneca Point Road were sitting out there and it just flew right over their heads.

TRAILS

Chairman Ely: Moving on—the trails at the Overlook Park, which we asked that they take action on—the Town Board voted to put up \$3,000 to assist in a grant application for a feasibility study. That was overtaken by events, which I only learned this morning. The form is very complicated and it did not appear, even with assistance, that the Town could complete this form with the very tight deadline of July 30-31. Further, it was represented to us, by Kevin Olvany, that he thought we could get assistance from the Finger Lakes Community College. Apparently, they have courses that deal with outdoor management and he thought it might be useful for us to turn to them for some assistance first. It might be a course project for someone to take that forward. So that's what they voted to do. But I do appreciate the fact, Bessie you know, this project has been stalled for years, and the Town Board is really trying to move forward on the trails.

Bessie Tyrrell: I have a question. Back to the tour on docking and mooring, did they kind of outline that once this is defined as a commercial property, what they were allowed to put there?

Chairman Ely: That is a very interesting question and they discussed that at some length. The default position for that property is Tier I—that is the most restrictive tier.

Bessie Tyrrell: Tier I, as a commercial property is different than a residential property. Correct?

Chairman Ely: It could be assigned a Tier I. Maria was very clear on that. Further, even if it was assigned a Tier I, that does not give you any right to the maximum number of slips. They can be reduced further. As I understand it, Everwilde is applying for 10 slips and there was some discussion that they might limit them to 8. Now this is premature, Bessie. They haven't actually got a response from Everwilde yet. It's pretty obvious that the Town Board is going to assign them the most restrictive Tier they can.

Does that answer your question, Bessie?

Bessie Tyrrell: Yes.

Ralph Endres: I think the key to the marina part is that when we sent it on to the Town Board, we said that there should be no lift, no elevator, no road down there, just stairs. If they put stairs down there, there is not a whole lot of people that can climb up that hill. You better put your hiking boots on

when you go up those stairs, even if they make it better than it is now, which I suspect they will. The fact is, no one is going to climb up and down those stairs to get to their boat. Its ten stories!

Chairman Ely: It's very, very steep. The map I was shown, did show stairs.

Ralph Endres: Yes, I feel confident that even if they get 5 boat slips, they won't have a lot of people coming by boat.

Mary Ann Bachman: The other thing, the landing area, or boardwalk—how far are they able to extend out before the boat slips? There's a cliff.

Ralph Endres: There's the cliff and shoreline of about 10 feet. Actually where those boat slips will be it will be about 7-8 feet deep out there. You can have a small landing type dock and then maybe 5 boat slips. I don't think you'll ever see 8 boats there at the same time.

Rodney Terminello: Weren't they going to have a golf cart?

Bessie Tyrrell: They said they would have a golf cart, but you couldn't take your own.

Rodney Terminello: That would be a big boat to bring your own golf cart.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Chairman Ely: Our last Comprehensive Plan was 2008. We are now getting underway in a preliminary manner as to how we might revamp our Comprehensive Plan over the next several months. I think at this point we are trying to get a sense of what kind of professional assistance might be rendered to this Board in that process and also try to get a sense for how much cost may be involved.

So we are really in a preliminary stage and we are here to learn. I appreciate Ed Flynn, from LaBella, for coming and Ed we are going to let you take it away.

Edward Flynn: Thanks for inviting me tonight. I'm not mad at anything—I'm very happy. After driving out here, I don't know how anyone could be unhappy. It's absolutely beautiful.

Like Jim said, my name is Ed Flynn. I am the Planning Director for LaBella Associates now. I've been there about eight years. I appreciate what you are doing because I'm actually on the Planning Board for the City of Batavia. I was also the Community Developmental Director for the City of Batavia for 13 years before I went to LaBella so I administered and managed the Planning Board. I put record information together and recommendations so I understand what you are going through and I appreciate all the time you spend doing all this.

I was actually here in December, when you were doing Everwilde, so I think I met some of you. I came a little late because I actually decided to go through Pittsford during Christmas time. It's still there.

Jim and I had a general conversation on the phone about Comprehensive Plans and I just want to give you general information about what and how we think Comprehensive Plans are approached and then talk a little bit about surveys, because I think that's something you wanted to discuss, and then there is some additional information, in the package, in terms of the some of the other things we use in terms of planning and comprehensive plans.

So, I have a little graph here. I think you guys probably know what a Comprehensive Plan is, but I just want to go through because I think that will help us in the discussion in terms of what kind of services we provide. I like to use colors in graphs now days because the older I get I need some navigation in terms of how to present things.

Basically a Comprehensive Plan has three steps. First of all, you need to know: 1) Where you are and where you've been; 2) Where do you want to go; 3) How to get there—the implementation plan.

The first step is really “where are we?” So you want to look at some basic components, what every Comprehensive Plan has. Different communities have different components in their Comprehensive Plan—depending on the community. Some are suburban communities, some are cities, and some are rural communities. We work with every single one of those.

Some of the basic components—want to look at ways, you want to find out from real property services actually what the actual claims are in the community and then you want to look at zoning and compare those two and find out where the differences are. In a lot of communities, the differences are substantial.

Barb Johnson, from our group, is going to come in in a little bit, and she actually works with a lot of Comprehensive Plans so if you have any questions, she can help you with that. Also we will look at housing issues, residential issues—some folks have neighborhoods, some folks are in rural areas, so we look at it differently.

Economic development is different in every community—we are going to look at what kind of opportunities there are for economic development. Some people want economic development, some communities don't want it. Some people have tourism development, probably like here, some people have different types of development.

We will also look at parks and recreation. That is a important component to most Comprehensive Plans. Especially for communities that are broke. Because they want to figure out good opportunities to purchase land and apply for grants for those lands before they are taken up by developers.

One of the things we specialize in is agricultural and farmland protection. We do a lot of agricultural and farmland protection plans, so we can look at some of the special issues with properties and farmland. We'll also look at our existing plans and policies. So if you have some existing plans out there, whether they are Comprehensive Plans or some Area Plans, or any other plans and policies that are relevant to the Comprehensive Plan, we'll look at those, review them and consider them as part of the existing conditions.

What I don't have on here is one of the most important things to look at is the map. So we will look at all the demographics in what has changed over the last 10-20 years in population, in housing, economic development-type issues just so you have that type information, before you start putting together the recommendations in figuring out where you actually are going to go.

What we also like to include in a lot of our newer Comprehensive Plans are comparison communities. Just to look at what other communities that are similar to Town of South Bristol are doing in terms of their development and their plan. We don't want to copy what they are doing, but we want to see just to get some suggestions and see what other communities are doing so we can use that as a basis for coming up with some recommendations.

This is Barb Johnson from our group.

So the second step is, where do we want to go once we know what the existing issues are? Part of that process is doing the visioning process. Doing public meeting, doing public workshops, doing the survey that we talked about. A lot of communities are now doing on-line surveys, on-line social media stuff; some communities don't like that stuff at all. So it ends on the community.

We can also do strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities and analysis just with our group. Our group you designate for the steering committee. Find out what their issues are so that you can balance that with what the public says their issues are, before you come up with what your recommendations are.

Once we have all that information, then you'll have some issues and opportunities. That's what Barbara calls it in her plans. I call it key findings. I think it's pretty much the same thing. What are the things you really want to focus on in terms of the analysis and recommendations? That's really the next step.

Then, finally when we have that, we can start to put together: Goals, recommendations and the action plans. Some have had some real simple goals and objectives, but the key findings and those things you really are focused on, we are going to focus more on and get some more detailed-information on.

Once you have all that information together, then you are going to actually figure out how you are going to implement that. So you put together some kind of implementation plan or matrix—says who's going to do it, when are they going to do it, and who's responsible for doing it and the timing of that.

Because we specialize in a lot of grant funding, we put in what are some of the funding opportunities to submit some of the recommendations of the plan. That is really the Comprehensive Planning phases that we look at. I know you are looking at what kind of services we can provide. We can provide all of those services. If you just want to start out looking at some existing conditions in doing the survey work, we can do that. If you want to do some public hearing meetings, we can help you with that. Barb's worked on a lot of Comprehensive Plans and there's communities who just want to do the survey, there's communities who want us to just help them with the demographics, there are some that are going to do the Plan, and they just want us to advise them on it. In general, we find that doesn't usually work too well sometimes with communities, because it helps to have someone objectively help you put

together the Plan and then we have some communities that just want us to do the whole entire Plan. So, we've worked the whole range of opportunities for putting together the Plan.

Barbara Johnson: Some of our experience—some communities will bite the whole thing and then when they get to the end, they are like “Oh, wow, now we have to put it together in a book”, and we come in at the end. We are working with a community now in Genesee County where they are taking the lead and doing a lot of the outreach and pulling people together. That really takes a lot of time, so kind of found that kind of efficient for them to create some stake holder groups and to arrange all those meetings with every stake holder, that's kind a big piece of the public engagement that they are handling—those volunteers. We are just the technical advisor on that end. There is a range. I agree with everything you said and there are a lot of ways to do it, and we are pretty flexible.

I don't know if you mentioned it, but most of my experience has been entirely in small towns and villages, in rural areas, and with farmland protection, so we have a lot of familiarity with issues involving protection natural resources, open spaces, and the economies.

Edward Flynn: Before we talk about the survey, any questions about this in general?

Chairman Ely: Let's go to the survey.

Bessie Tyrrell: After you make these Comprehensive Plans, do you go back and check to see how it has impacted people that have applied for what this actually has done for the Town? Do you know what I mean?

Edward Flynn: We recommend once you have that implementation table, is to have a monitoring system, whether it's on a 6-month basis or a 1-year basis, or a 2-year basis, so you go back and look at the recommendations to see if they've actually been implemented. If they haven't, if this person or agency hasn't helped you out, talk to them to see if they can help you out and put it in Plan.

Bessie Tyrrell: So you put that into the Plan? My understanding is our Comprehensive Plan is really done the way we want it to be done, it kind of lays out a lot of things that can and can't happen in a town. Have you found that is true, there had been changes once you've implemented the plans you've put forth?

Edward Flynn: Once you're done with the Plan, one of the big implementation items is updating your codes. That's going to be the biggest change probably. That's going to be a lot more difficult than doing the Comprehensive Plan, because that's the actual implementation and how it's actually affecting each individual property. So the Comprehensive Plan is just a general plan—it's not zoning, so that's the big difference. When you get down to the zoning you are going to have to start affecting people's property and as you know, then you will start getting attendance.

Ralph Endres: I think when we did the last Comprehensive Plan, about 10 years ago, we did a lot of rezoning and I think where we are at now, personally, I just think it needs to be tweaked a little. I don't think we have to go and completely rezone vast areas of the Town—maybe a little tweak here and

a little tweak there. I don't view our Comprehensive Plan as outdated by any means. I just think it needs to be updated. I think this is critical to do a survey because the last time we did it, I think 30% of the people responded.

Edward Flynn: Great! Oh Great!

Ralph Endres: That's a heck of a slice because the survey usually just goes in the circular file when they get it. We used a lot of their suggestions. Most of the ones wanted it to remain rural area. They didn't want to have the industry. I suspect if we do that again, you will find that people who are living here have the same feeling they did 10 years ago. I don't think we have a huge population increase in the Town. I would say it's probably not more than 10% in the last 10 years.

Edward Flynn: Ten percent is pretty good.

Ralph Endres: The County is growing faster than that, but I don't think the Town is. Those are just guesstimates on my part. I don't have any statistical validation on those. So I'm just saying—since living here since 1998 and looking out at night and seeing the lights on the hill, I remembered what it was when I moved it was almost black! Now there's lights almost all over. So there has been some growth, mainly in the single family residences.

Barbara Johnson: Just a comment on that, when we are done—we don't work for the communities as staff, so we'd like to set up a structure and a process once the plans done, so the committee that's put it together and the committee that succeeds them, whether it's the planning board or group, has a good clear of what needs to be done and how to monitor it. So that's where the table comes in—do this the first year, do this in five years and so forth.

Some of the Towns we've worked with have been really good about doing that and some, unfortunately, say oh the plans done. Even though you emphasize the finishing of the plan, you are at the beginning of the implementation. We try to reach the community with a structure. When we continue to work with the community a lot of times it's to apply for grants. So we try to make sure that anything that is specifically recommended in the plan, is written in such ways to support grant applications, so we follow up that way.

Ralph Endres: With this one, they had what they called action plans. That was supervised by this board. Tried to get the Historical Society to share their thoughts, you know what I'm saying. Right now, we did all the work--notified the Town Board that maybe we should do this based on the Comprehensive Plan. I would think when we do this over again, we'll do it the same way. We may call it different things but basically it will have the same affect. Maybe even be better, more effective.

Edward Flynn: Did I answer most of your questions?

Bessie Tyrrell: You did, thank you.

Chairman Ely: Do you want to go on to the survey now?

Edward Flynn: Sure. I brought you a sample of the survey we recently did for the Town of Bergen. One of the first things a lot of communities like to do, is do a survey. To find out what the community's thinking before they actually start putting together any kind of recommendations. So, what we try to do is to put together some type of ideas. We first meet with the Committee asking what they think the issues are and what type of questions they want to ask in general. Then we will put together the survey based on some other surveys we've had. So if we did it for you, we have some similar questions here that we tailor to the Community.

As you can see from this survey—we have an introduction. We start out with some basic demographics asking who they are. Then we ask them what they think about the Community, in general. These are not necessarily the Comprehensive type questions, but they are just community questions that a lot of communities like to ask any way to get some information to get engaged to how the community is thinking about activities in the community and then we will start asking some questions based on the different categories, the different chapters in the Comprehensive Plan—lands and developments, transportation and circulation, recreation and parks, residential, economic development and shared services.

You may have some different categories that you may want to look at. The Village of Bergen has set it up where they have a lot of these questions where it is non-important or it is important. That's kind of a good way of doing it, because you start to get on a scale in terms of what the preferences are in the community. So we put this together, than we come back to you, the planning committee, asking what you think of the document. If they want to make any changes, we edit it for them. Then once we have all that information together, then we put it on Survey Monkey. We only put it on Survey Monkey so we can tabulate it. Some communities don't like their survey on line. So a community of this size, we just working with the Town of Bergen, a very similar size, we sent out the surveys to every single resident in the community. We actually used a mailing service to do that. It worked out very, very well. We got a very similar response—I think it was 30, 40, or 50%.

Barbara Johnson: It was 30.

Edward Flynn: So it was about the same. It was a great response rate. We were very surprised, actually. The Board was very engaged, like Barb said. They got all the information out, they put notices out to churches, the Town Hall, and anywhere they could to tell people about the survey. So we would send it out to all the residents. That will be homeowners, if there was a tenant in any of the building, we would send it out to them as well. There was a big issue in Bergen with people that moved south. They wanted to make sure we recognized that as well. You might have just the opposite view, people are coming up here in summers. You might just want to time it when you want to do it. So we will have a deadline, people will send it back in. Because we will have it set up in Survey Monkey, they can do it online or they can just mail it in. We can put it on Survey Monkey. When you put it on Survey Monkey, they will give you the results immediately. You can do bar graphs, cross graphs—it really is fantastic! We use it on all the communities for which we've done Comprehensive Plans. We'll have that data, we'll present it to you. We'll look at it first, we'll evaluate it a little bit to give you some of our ideas. We are sure you will have some ideas yourselves as well.

Then once that is done, we can then use that for some of the recommendations in the Comprehensive Plan. That will help gauge where you want to go in terms of recommendations.

Chairman Ely: Let me ask you. You mentioned a mailing, but you don't talk about an online survey?

Edward Flynn: You have the option. So what we do—the Town of Bergen recognized that most of their community was probably 40+, so they determined they weren't necessarily going to do the online surveys. They defaulted to sending out the survey, but as you can see, on the bottom of the final survey, they had the actual online address so you can go to that, fill it out and put it online, if you want to, instead of putting it on paper.

Chairman Ely: I suspect our Town would make the similar decision, but that's premature. So it would get mailed to everyone then they would have the option of returning it by mail or going online.

Edward Flynn: With the Town of Bergen, I think it was probably 9% paper return.

Barbara Johnson: The Town of Bergen and other communities really wanted to drive traffic to their website—to their Village or Town website so the link was right on their website. So it wasn't like a big long address, the link was right on their website.

Bessie Tyrrell: Is there something from keeping someone from doing it twice?

Barbara Johnson: That came up, but we felt that the survey was as much of an outreach tool. We don't control demographics, we don't weigh them. Unfortunately, young people are less inclined to fill it out. You can do that, so we emphasize that it's not a statistically valid survey—it's an opinion survey. The people who respond are the ones mostly interested. Everybody had an opportunity. So, from a political standpoint, you've given everyone in the Town an opportunity—they got a survey. So we were concerned if you send one per household, there may be two people there, who may have strong opinions which are not the same. One can fill it out on line and the other can write it down, or make a copy and send two in. So we had a lot of discussion about that and we didn't feel people are going to pack the ballot box.

Ralph Endres: That's what you want, their opinion anyway. That's basically what's going to drive the Comprehensive Plan what the people want, not what we want.

Barbara Johnson: So there's way to restrict that. You can send in one per computer, but then someone could go to the library—not the same computer. So we don't do that, but we emphasize that it's not statistically valid responses either.

Chairman Ely: Is the survey typically done before you have any public meetings?

Edward Flynn: That's kind of funny- it depends on the community. Before we decided the issues in Bergen, they wanted the survey done first. Usually we have general discussions on what the

issues are and they said ‘well, we don’t know’. We want to find out from the community what the issues are first, before we start discussing anything about the Comprehensive Plan. That kind of worked out pretty well.

Barbara Johnson: It really depends. Often it’s the first thing you do and then the first couple of meetings are an opportunity to share the survey response.

Ralph Endres: If we are out of touch—I don’t think we are, but if we are, that would be a good way to find out if we are out of touch is to get the results of the survey. There may be some issues in there that we are not aware of.

Barbara Johnson: There is usually a write-in section and that’s where you get everything else.

Ralph Endres: That’s the most interesting, to tell you the truth!

Barbara Johnson: That’s where people have their own opinions and things we’ve never thought of.

Bessie Tyrrell: Survey Monkey just tabulates those and sends you the results?

Barbara Johnson: Those open-ended questions and then they just spread them out. They aren’t in order but you read 4-5 pages of people’s comments to try to get a flavor.

Edward Flynn: If there is nothing on TV that night...

Ralph Endres: That’s the way things can be done on telephones now. They can be sitting watching a TV program and during the commercials, go through that. All in a period of a night could probably finish it.

Bessie Tyrrell: Did you do this visual preference survey as well?

Edward Flynn: Well, yes. We can do the visual preference survey as part of the regular survey or we can do it during a public workshop. This one we did it for a downtown public workshop. We just had 20 public images and asked them to rate them on a scale 1-10—1 was they didn’t like it and 10 was they really liked it. We got the survey results as you can see, those were the top 3 and the bottom 3.

But I have done them as part of Survey Monkey and not part of Survey Monkey. You can put pictures on Survey Monkey if you want to or you can send it out as well. What we do like to do with the surveys, is to keep them short. I wanted this one to come out 2 pages, but it came out 4 pages, because they wanted additional questions. I know for my own self, if I get a survey in the mail, if it gets a little too long you aren’t going to answer it.

Chairman Ely: For a community such as ours, what is predominantly rural or semi-rural, call it what you will, these images are mainly villages. You have Buffalo of all places.

Edward Flynn: Yes, this was a downtown survey. This was for a downtown workshop, but we can do anything.

Ralph Endres: Our downtown is right up the street, it is very rural.

Chairman Ely: It's right across the street here.

Mike Staub: Three stores and a nursery. Right next to the post office.

Ralph Endres: You can tailor the questions for this Town? The Town of South Bristol has no schools in it. In other words, we are part of the Naples School District.

Mike Staub: And Richmond, Town of Richmond, Honeoye School District.

Ralph Endres: So other than paying school taxes, we don't really have much to say about the schools. I came from Wheatland-Chili, Scottsville, the school was an integral part of that little town. The school is not an integral part of this Town.

Rodney Terminello: But we do get to vote on items such as the school budget.

Ralph Endres: Oh yeah, they do want you to vote, but you don't get the spirit from the school system. Because the school system is not here.

Edward Flynn: That's why we put the information together initially. We may put some things in there that you say 'no, there's no schools here!'

Ralph Endres: I think if you put that in there, you will find out that there is not a lot of interest in the school. I don't think most of the people who live here have kids in school anyway.

Bessie Tyrrell: I think there is interest in the schools.

Anne Caprini: I think it more from a tax standpoint.

Ralph Endres: Yeah, tax standpoint, but as far as the people in the Town of South Bristol, and the number of people they put in the Naples School District, I would say is very little and the same thing with Honeoye.

Mike Staub: Very few.

Barbara Johnson: One thing we try to focus on in the plans though, is something that the towns have control over. This committee involved the superintendent of the schools and it's the center of the school district there, so they just felt that was a big part of the community there. But really, what are they going to do as the town. School districts are like if you want more people, you are going to have to

have more residential development. That's basically the only nexus between the decisions the town is making and how it impacts the school.

I just want to say about the visual too. We do survey all over the Finger Lakes and western New York and we've seen some beautiful and some not-so-beautiful highway landscapes, rural roads, that type of things, so those are the types of visual preferences. There are a lot of different things you can point to, give people different choices other than a downtown.

Mary Ann Bachman: Is a visual preference survey typically done in this type of survey, because we didn't do anything like that?

Edward Flynn: No, that just came out about 15 years ago that it became more popular. Communities started to do it because they wanted to start to get designs into their plan and wanted some type of basis for making decisions at the Planning Board for site plan review. So a picture literally tells a lot.

Mary Ann Bachman: You wouldn't want to be pictured on this page.

Ralph Endres: One place you wouldn't want a picture is down in Woodville. That's one you don't want to see.

Edward Flynn: Like Barb said, we are very careful, we don't use local pictures.

Barbara Johnson: There are new trends with zoning with languages in laws, it's not so much focused with what you do with the land, but how you do it. So the larger communities are taking a bigger interest in design, how it looks and how it sets on the landscape, and those are things you do have control with. It's not just a traditional language regulation, but it's a good idea. If you allow a small resort and it looks really terrible, might get the same use, but if it looked beautiful, no one would notice it and it wouldn't have any impact. There's other ways to gauge what communities think about different appearances of different developments even if might be the same definition of the same development.

Bessie Tyrrell: I would be interested in how many people use Carolabarb Park and the Ontario County Park?

Chairman Ely: The County Park is quite extensive—I've never seen many people up there.

Rodney Terminello: It depends when you are there.

Ralph Endres: In the fall, it's pretty loaded.

Rodney Terminello: Do you put in any metrics or evaluation tools that follow-up to make sure we are not following the wrong plan.

Edward Flynn: The implementation table will be turned into a table that you can use when you need time, annual basis or 6-month basis, but we can put it into place if you want to get some metrics. Depending on what it is. Sometimes you want metrics in there, sometimes you don't. Sometimes it doesn't make sense.

Bessie Tyrrell: How much does Survey Monkey charge?

Edward Flynn: Well, we subscribe to it, so we are all set.

Barbara Johnson: They do offer free surveys but they limit it to the number of questions, like if you want to survey 110 of your friends to go on vacation, you can do that for free. The larger surveys you have to pay a subscription fee.

Chairman Ely: I stressed earlier that ultimately the Town Board, not this body, would decide what kind of contractual arrangements to make and what kind of investment to make in services. You could provide a variety of these options—the survey or the whole package as you have described earlier.

Edward Flynn: Well, we can put together some kind of proposal and value for each task and then you can pick out what you want to do.

Ralph Endres: Have you looked at our Comprehensive Plan as it stands now?

Edward Flynn: I did look at it before the meeting in December—I didn't look at it since, so I have to look at that in more detail.

Ralph Endres: You might come up with some suggestions after reading that, because that was done 10 years ago. There's new trends coming down of which we are not aware. Again, I don't think we need to re-invent the wheel. It's not like we are just starting to have a Comprehensive Plan. The one we have works pretty well. Most of the people seem pretty happy with it. I would like another survey personally, because I think we are going to find that most of the people have not changed their minds—what they want. But that would be a good reinforcement for us. I don't want to shove my personal beliefs on anyone else. I want it to be their plan.

Chairman Ely: I'm sure we would be committed at some point to: A) the survey, B) wanting more public hearings to get plenty of community input, even if a lot of it might be repetitious—might repeat what they already answered on the survey, but still the community outreach is an important part of the process.

Edward Flynn: It could be more than a public meeting, it could be a workshop where we just make a short presentation than we do a board around the room where people can make comments on land use or economic development—we can get their input on that. We don't like to talk to them, we like to hear from them.

Barbara Johnson: Another part of it is engaging the staff people of the town, as well as, representatives from the county and other agencies. They could all come to an 'open house' type of thing and we could have a little display about the infrastructure and have the town highway superintendent talk about what the issues are and what they are doing, what their plans are.

Chairman Ely: Let me go back because as I said a few moments ago, you could send to me, or Barbara Welch, our Supervisor, a breakout of what services might cost. As I mentioned earlier, she has to budget some things. So at least a range, ball park figures. We can't just say 'it sounds great, let's sign up.' That won't work for her. She has to have some idea of what we are talking about.

Edward Flynn: We can do it in phases. I mean we can do the survey first.

Ralph Endres: That would work. I think if we find after the survey that things haven't changed too much, then we can probably put something together in a short period of time and get this out.

Edward Flynn: One thing I did mention, we could probably audit what you have there and see what has been done and what hasn't been done and what still needs to be done.

Bessie Tyrrell: That's a good idea.

Rodney Terminello: One of the things I think too, when we had the Everwilde Project we were asked to measure our Comprehensive Plan, what the objectives are. So we can look at it from that point of view too.

Bessie Tyrrell: Barbara Welch shared with us that her daughter was staying home one summer and she and her daughter tabulated all the results.

Chairman Ely: I have a message- that's not going to be done this time.

Edward Flynn: We are going to use a computer, not a typewriter.

Ralph Endres: Just to show you where technology has gone—everyone on Planning Board was given a CD disk with everything that came back from the survey. Now you can't even plug it into your computer because none of them have a CD reader. I got it but it's just sitting up on my desk, nothing I can look at.

Chairman Ely: Ok, do we have other questions for our presenters?

Ann Jacobs: The only thing that I would like to mention, in our Comprehensive Plan, sometimes I think the wording is open to interpretation and I think maybe we could nail that down a little bit better.

Chairman Ely: Good point. We thank you both very much for coming. We appreciate it.

Edward Flynn: I heard you talking about the trail, and the trail study is not going far? I may have some ideas for you, for another option, for doing this. I'm going to talk to Steve Metzger about that. There might be some other grant opportunities that are not part of that same grant.

Chairman Ely: If you have some ideas, have Steve, or you shoot us an email. Oh, please get back to me, or Barbara Welch, with your break-out of cost schedules.

Edward Flynn: Ok, we will do that pretty soon. We are doing 21 CFPs.

Barbara Johnson: We have some idea, we might be able to put something together soon.

Chairman Ely: Thank you both, so much, for coming.

Edward Flynn and Barbara Johnson left the meeting.

Chairman Ely: Ok, is there any discussion at this point or should we prepare to adjourn.

Ralph Endres: The only discussion I would like to say, if we could get these people as a minimum, to even do the survey—break up the survey with pie charts. If we find basically, based on responses from the people in the Town, things haven't changed all that much, then maybe our interests should be tightening up the wording a little bit. Publishing it and going forward with it.

Rodney Terminello: Do you think we'll have them look at the survey from the last time?

Chairman Ely: Sure.

Bessie Tyrrell: We could have them look at the survey, but the other option might be to having them create a new survey, but have them put in an insert, know what I mean?

Ralph Endres: To use some of the same ideas that were in the one we did 10 years ago. Update it with newer ideas.

Bessie Tyrrell: Well, Mrs. Elizabeth Caprini wrote the one before that.

Being no further business, Ann Jacobs made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rodney Terminello. The motion was unanimously accepted and meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Converse,
Recording Secretary