

Town of Bristol
Focus Panel
May 30, 2012

Members Attending: Chairman Nate Harvey, Councilman Tom Stevens, Scott Battle, Lon Chase, Jude Ellis, Judy Taylor Salzburg, Secretary Sandy Riker

Also Attending: Kim Sherwood, Steve Barnhoorn, and guests from Richmond Focus Panel

Kim Sherwood is a hydrologist and water planner for Chautauqua County. He provided us with a presentation that he had prepared for the Southern Tier West Conference at Houghton College May 9th. At the end you will find a copy of his outline and bios. His presentation "Shale Gas Recovery in NYS" A Broad Overview of NYSDEC's Proposed Approach is very thoughtful and well presented. He spoke of balances and tradeoffs with regard to HVHF coming to NYS. The purpose of his piece is to make the audience think about all aspects involved with the process: such as water with regard to supply and it's uses, fracturing and possible refracturing, traffic, jobs, road use, housing, and many issues much more than jobs vs. environment.

Some of the areas that I thought of as a result of listening to him were: where is the funding going to come from for the Local Health Departments if they are to be the first responders for drinking water complaints, what has Ontario County done to get ready for this possibility, what are the thoughts of the County Watershed and Storm water management group, the EMS responders, County and Town road people and how they are preparing or at least researching possibilities on how to handle the heavy trucks and increased traffic? I wish that more people could have been included to hear Mr. Sherwood but I am glad that at least the Focus Panel could meet him and see his presentation. We were hoping to use this forum to improve joint efforts with neighboring towns. Panel members from South Bristol, Gorham and Richmond were invited but only people from Richmond showed up. He recommended that further sources for good information were at: Cornell Natural Gas Resource Center, Penn State Extension, and the DEC website.

After the guests left the Focus Panel opened their meeting at 9:00 p.m.

The Focus Panel would like to set Sept. 26th as the date for the group's presentation to the community with regard to their findings and recommendations to the Town Board. As of today June 2nd I spoke with Mark Francese of the Bristol Fire Dept. and he said he would mention this at the next meeting at the fire hall and get back with the final answer if we can rent their facility for our presentation. I have also contacted County Printing and Mailing to see if we can use their services for our newsletter to the community. This should help reduce the costs for the letter. We will ask the Town Board to review and make their recommendations of the letter at their next board meeting.

Judy reminded the group that Prof. Ingrafria would be speaking at the Honeoye School Auditorium on June 28th at 7:00 p.m. With regard to a geologist to speak with the focus panel, and possibly other communities' focus groups she has lined up Dr. Young for some time in September.

The group agreed it was time to start organizing all of the data they have collected so far and put together an outline for the upcoming meetings and the presentation on the 26th of Sept. At the next meeting they will make a list of all topics covered to date and fit it into the sections of the Comprehensive Plan as it is written. The next meeting will be at 3:45 in the pavilion in the park, Monday June 4th.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Riker

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