

Notes from
September 7, 2016
Comprehensive Plan Update Committee

Present: Joann Rogers, Donna Beretta, Kris Monzel, Liz and Ron Smith, Cat Cohen, Justin Steinbach, Dave Parsons, Sandra Riker, and Bob Green

Also Present: Bob Green, Sheri Norton, and Dr. Bruce Gilman

Guest Speakers: Dr. Bruce Gilman from FLCC and Sheree Norton from Ontario County GIS services.

Sheri spoke first and provided us with background information on the Ontario County GIS program:

The Ontario County Planning and Research Department took the lead with GIS efforts in Ontario County beginning in the early 1990s. Through the Planning Department's efforts, GIS has become an important tool for a number of County departments including Real Property Tax, the Sheriff's Department, 911, and Public Works.

Recognizing the growing interest in and need for spatial information by so many county and municipal workers as well as the general public, a new County GIS Coordinator position was established in 2012 and the program shifted to the Information Services Department to provide centralized administrative and support functions for the County's many users and applications.

In addition to providing technical services to its municipalities and other county departments, their staff also handles data, analysis and custom mapping requests for the public and private sectors, as well as educational outreach efforts and collaborative partnerships with local and state organizations. She told us that training is available either in groups or individual assistance and the coordinator for that type of training would be Carla Jordan from Ontario County Planning Department.

GIS technology integrates common database operations such as query and statistical analysis with the visual and geographic benefits offered by maps. These abilities distinguish GIS from other information systems and graphics software. The analytical component of GIS makes it a valuable tool in public and private enterprises for planning strategies, explaining events, and modeling future events. She went on to say that GIS provides part of the format for Dr. Gilman's studies of the natural communities in landscape and cultural environment in the area.

Dr. Bruce Gilman spoke next telling the group he has been involved in study of environmental conservation and horticulture for many years and is a Professor of Environmental Conservation at the local college FLCC. He also studies the lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, and wetlands to document natural landscape. Over the past several years he has mapped 2/3 to ¾ of Ontario County. Most recently conducted studies were of the watersheds for Town of Gorham, Victor, Canandaigua, Seneca and just finishing up the Town of Richmond. He said that Sandra Riker had contacted him last year saying Bristol was looking to update their Comprehensive Plan and wondered if he would consider adding us to his list of projects. We did not make the cut in time for funding of the field work project for this year, but a new

application period for next year will be opening up soon through the Water Resources Council and he will mention our interest at their next meeting to be included for next year's funding. He will work with Carla Jordan on our behalf.

His work requires that he go out into the field and inventory the watershed area, in our case that would be Mud Creek, and Mill Creek. He uses pictometry and GIS as tools for documenting his information along with a "truthing" process where he goes out and walks the land to identify what is there. He normally does this research during the summer months and enlists students from the college to assist him.

July 20th meeting minutes:

The minutes were reviewed and one of the committee members wanted to know why the note to the Town Board from Sandra Riker was not included in the minutes which prompted the change in the agenda for the July 20th meeting. Another committee person expressed a concern that comments from all committee people were not included in the minutes as well. The above areas will be included in the amended minutes from July 20th. Sandra Riker said she sends the draft minutes via email ahead of the meetings to provide an opportunity for all members to express their concerns or need for additional comments and to insure the minutes could be updated in a timely fashion. The Committee agreed they would like future meeting notes to be more inclusive.

Liz Smith wanted to know if all members were now in consensus with moving forward with the outline presented by Co-Chair Kris Monzel at the July 20th meeting. Co-Chair Justin Steinbach said flexibility should be a key to the process. It may not be necessary to reinvent the Comprehensive Plan document and they should determine how complex it needs to be and update what is already there. Community and Committee members are the main drivers for this type of decision. It is necessary to look thoroughly at the existing plan and use it as a starting point. Ms. Monzel said she doesn't want to see the updated plan be limited to just what was in the existing plan.

October 26th Community Meeting:

The Secretary said she would update the town website calendar to reflect the meeting on the 26th of October to be a Community Meeting and not an open house. It was agreed to use the "sunglasses" poster for advertising for that event. Kris will make the appropriate changes to the flyer. Cat will take it to Canandaigua for printing and she will be reimbursed by the Town for her expenses. The flyer will be made available at the Town Hall, Library, posted at the Dandy Mart Community Board, and at events occurring in the Town prior to the October 26th meeting at the Fire Hall. It will also be added to the Town Webpage.

The Committee will meet again on September 21st at that time they will review the spreadsheet created by Carla Jordan with input from Bob Green, David Parsons, and Sandra Riker of the current Comprehensive Plan as part of the agenda for that meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Riker
Town of Bristol
Secretary to Planning and ZBA Boards

September 22, 2016 Carla Jordan was not present for the September 7th meeting and will not be commenting on these notes. All other committee members okayed the notes to be posted to the webpage.