



Sustainability Oversight Committee

Secretary – Mike Guyon

Sustainability Oversight Committee November 1, 2017

Draft Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Ron Wexler, Paul Tankel, Margy Peet, Steve Kittelberger, Mitch Nellis, Shubhangi Gandhi, Frank Sciremammano, Ramsey Boehner, Chris Werner, Mike Guyon, Evert Garcia

Minutes: The September 2017 meeting minutes were approved with minor revisions.

Open Forum:

Announcements:

Old Business

- Comprehensive Plan Update, Frank Sciremammano and Ramsey Boehner
 - Frank and Ramsey provided an update on the status of the comprehensive plan update. They indicated that the SOC's comments were received and incorporated into the updated Land Use and Policy Framework documents, however, the updated Policy Framework was not correctly distributed to the SOC for review. Going forward, revision to the comprehensive plan documents will include dates and revision numbers.
 - Town staff will distribute the correct Land Use and Policy Framework documents to the SOC after the meeting. The comprehensive plan steering committee would like to receive revisions on the Land Use and Policy Framework documents from the SOC by mid-December. Frank indicated that the next steering committee meeting will likely be scheduled for early January to allow some time for the SOC to discuss the Land Use and Policy Framework document at the December SOC meeting.
 - The SOC discussed their review comments on the updated Land Use Recommendations. Some of the items discussed included:
 - Paul expressed concern for the “Multiversity” language included in the document. The current language appears to suggest a shift in the center of gravity for the Town from 12 Corners to western portions of Brighton. Frank indicated that the intent is not to detract from the current center of gravity but instead to promote a second center of gravity on the western portions of Brighton given the potential with the area colleges. The comprehensive steering committee will review this language and revise as necessary.

- The SOC indicated that the Land Use language needs to be organized better and include the section on Monroe Avenue first. Additionally, the SOC feels that the proposed form based code concept should be clarified within the plan.
 - Margy suggested that infrastructure for electric charging stations must be considered in the plan. Additionally, the plan should consider updates to the the Town Code which allow other alternative energy infrastructure installations.
 - The SOC is concerned that resiliency concepts are not stressed in the plan. Shubhangi suggested that the plan should also consider concepts of drought tolerance.
 - Paul indicated that he would like to see EPOD's and floodplains included with the land use mapping. Town Staff will provide the SOC with a copy of the requested mapping for reference.
 - The SOC would like to see the comprehensive plan include keywords which will make it easily discoverable in web searches.
 - The SOC will provide the remaining comments on the Land Use and Policy Framework documents to Town staff by November 17. Mike will organize said comments and distribute to the SOC by Thanksgiving. The comments will be reviewed together at the next SOC meeting in December prior to submitting the comments to the comprehensive plan steering committee.
- Climate Action Plan
 - Mike presented the SOC with a new draft Executive Summary for the Climate Action Plan. The new Executive Summary will be combined with Zoe's initial Executive Summary draft and distributed to the SOC for review and comment. The SOC indicated that they need to collectively decide what the message of the Executive Summary should be before finalizing.
 - CCA
 - The CCA Public Hearing was closed by the Town Board with no action taken. The Town Board is concerned that the enabling language needs to be reviewed and revised prior to adoption. The Town is generally agreeable to the CCA concept, however, there are concerns with the opt out policy of the proposal and possible penalties associated with opting out. The Town is currently looking to benchmark other CCA laws. Margy indicated that she will provide Chris with a few other CCA law examples.
 - Clean Energy Communities, Benchmarking Law
 - Mike indicated that the Town approved an Energy Benchmarking Law for municipal buildings at the October 25, 2017 board meeting. The Town must complete one more high impact action item to be considered a certified Clean Energy Community. The Town is pursuing the Energy Code Enforcement training for our compliance officers as the final high impact action item for certification.

- East Avenue, NYS Rte. 96 Road Diet
 - The NYS DOT is looking to make improvements along East Avenue in Brighton and Pittsford from Highland Avenue to route 31F. The improvements include a road diet which reduces the four-lane road to two lanes with a center turn lane and wider shoulders which can accommodate cyclists. Mike indicated that the SOC should attend the public input meeting being held on November 2 to voice their support.
- Canal Embankment Cleaning
 - The SOC briefly discussed the proposed work to occur in some areas along the canal which are to be clear-cut. These areas will be removed of vegetation, excavated of tree stumps and resurfaced with lawn-like grass. The purpose of this project is to restore the canal embankments to their original state, which was free of vegetation. The Canal Corp. has indicated that the extensive trees and roots along steep embankments on the canal can compromise the structural integrity of the banks which are built above ground. Additionally, the heavy vegetation hinders thorough inspection of the canal structures.
- Development Update
 - The latest developments on projects within the Town were briefly discussed.

New Business

Adjournment

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be December 6, 2017 at 7:00 PM.