

## **Genoa Comprehensive Planning Group Notes Monday 14 December 2009**

Present: Dave Baildon, John Berry, Anto Parseghian, Dave Stilwell, Dan Thayer, Susan Tosto, Karin Wikoff.

**1. Approval of Minutes for October Meeting:** Meeting minutes were approved and can now be posted on the Town website.

**2. Approval of the Minutes for the November Meeting:** Meeting minutes were provisionally approved, pending confirmation from Doug LaFave that the facts about the fire department are correct and confirmation from Kezia Sullivan that the facts about the ambulance service are correct.

### **3. Review of Outstanding Action Items from Previous Meetings:**

- **Susan Tosto will send her article to be mounted on the website:** Susan has confirmed that the article has been mounted on the website.
- **Karin Wikoff will send an updated committee member list to the website:** Done.
- **Karin will find missing text from website and line it up with what was kept for review:** Done and correction sent to Peggy for posting, but the change has not been made.
- **Dave Stilwell will ask Geoff Milz for the definitions used on the new tax maps we just received:** Dave will do this next time he talks to Geoff.
- **Dave will also ask Geoff if there is anything else for which we should be asking – are there things other communities request for which we have not yet asked?** Geoff will talk with Bruce Natale about water issues. The Town of Fleming has recently passed zoning to help protect water, partially dependent on lot size, and we can look at what they and other communities have done as possible examples for our town. Geoff also noted that there are State and Federal programs, particularly for agriculture, with money available; many farms are taking advantage of these programs. He notes that the Town of Niles has completed their plan and will send us a copy to review. We can look at that with particular interest in how they successfully handled water issues in their plan.
- **Karin will update survey comments and redistribute them:** Done.
- **Karin will update contact list and redistribute it:** Done.
- **Maria Bachich will try to find out if information is available on where people get their water – from the lake, drilled wells, dug wells, etc.:** Maria was not present at this meeting, but Dave had spoken with her. It would be much too big a job for our committee to try to gather this information from scratch, but it is information worth having. Dave will ask Maria to check to see who might have much of this information already available – the Assessor? The Water District? – then we can recommend that the Town pursue a more detailed report for the future.
- **Maria and Dave will begin an exploration of the open space issue:** The first conversations about open space have taken place. Dave had spoken with Andy Zepp and Geoff Milz, and John has highlights from the Finger Lakes Land Trust. Someone from the Trust might be a good future speaker to our group.
- **Peggy Bradley will call Kim Bennett to ask about our meeting with representative(s)**

from law enforcement as part of our outreach and inventory of emergency services available in Genoa: Peggy apparently spoke with Kim Bennett, Judge Bennett did not attend our emergency services meeting.

- Peggy will find out if we should try to meet up with the Fire Chiefs at one of their meetings, and if so, when and where: Peggy was able to make arrangements for Doug LaFave from the Genoa Fire Department to attend our previous meeting, but the representative from the King Ferry Fire Department was not available. Whoever writes that portion of the inventory will need to meet with him privately to gather the needed information.
- Anto will make arrangements for us to meet with Kezia Sullivan of Southern Cayuga Ambulance service: Done.
- Karin and Peggy will work on a letter inviting businesses in town to an Open House with the committee in January; the letter will include a request for an RSVP so we have some idea who is coming: Nothing has been done about this yet; we will need to postpone to a date later in the spring due to delays setting up meetings with the Agricultural folks.
- Dave will call Rhonda Fessenden to set a Saturday morning tour of the Fessenden farm for members of the committee: Dave will talk with Rhonda again to get some Saturday morning dates and let us know.
- John Berry will talk to Judy Wright of Farmland Trust to set a meeting time in December: John has set up Judy to come speak with us in January, tentatively on 11 January, and will re-contact her to see if she could come be part of a panel of speakers on Thursday 14 January instead.
- Dave will get copies of the disks with other community plans to Charlotte Reeves: Dave brought disks for Charlotte, but she was not in attendance.
- Charlotte will look over other plans to see how they deal with open spaces and recreation: After she gets the disks from Dave; some open space/recreation issues which came up at the meeting tonight included lake access, taxes for lake front properties, a blue trail for kayaking, and a question of ownership of the rail lines (It was ascertained that they are now all privately owned).
- Maria and Dave will contact Andy from the Cayuga Watershed group as well as the DEC: Dave contacted Andy; Maria contacted Hilary from Cayuga County.
- Karin will update July notes as decided at meeting and get them, along with the August meeting notes, to Peggy to be uploaded to the website: Done, but they have not yet been posted.
- Karin will share notes of meeting with Bob Godbout of the First Presbyterian Church of King Ferry with Anto for his write up on the religious community in Genoa: Done.
- When time allows, Karin will gather historical census data to try to track trends in population changes: Karin still needs to do this.
- Karin will type up action items first and distribute them: Done.
- Karin will type up meeting notes when time allows and distribute advance copies to make it easier to approve them at the next meeting: Done.

**4. Next Inventory Area: Agriculture:** What additional information do we need? We have Judy Wright's old PowerPoint presentation. We can get info from the County, we can get the ag

laws, we can get info from NYS Ag and Markets. Each member of the committee should do some reading from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets website (Dave handed out print-out from this site): <http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/AP/agsservices/agdistricts.html>

It was noted that our committee lacks much representation from the agricultural community (We have John Berry and Barb Patchen). Perhaps Susan, in her marketing role, could work on some outreach? It may be that we have to get the inventory done, draft a plan, then put it before the community for comment before we get any real feedback.

The idea of a panel of government officials and representatives of agriculture-related organizations was discussed for a January meeting to which we would strongly encourage the public to attend. We'd like to put together 3-4 of these individuals who could each speak for about 15 minutes on what's going on in their area that would affect the Town of Genoa, to be followed by 45 minutes of Q&A with the public. In addition to Judy Wright of Farm Land Trust, who has already agreed to come speak to us, other possible names include Fran Mitchell, our County Legislator, someone from Soil and Water, someone from County Planning, someone from Farm Bureau? We selected Thursday January 14 as a best date. Dave will start making calls to see who is available and willing to come. Susan will start planning advertising to the community (Ads in Shopper, Pennysaver, flyers in popular spots around town, etc).

We will still have our regular meeting on Monday 11 January. Dave cannot be there, so Karin will have to chair the meeting. Looking ahead, new topics are sure to come up at the 14 January meeting, so our February meeting will be a debriefing and review of where we are after that event, and perhaps we will be able to get started designing the new survey, based on the input from the panel discussion. After agriculture, we still have a business open house to plan, then on to environment, open space and recreation, hopefully wrapping up the inventory pieces by June.

## **5. Action Items:**

- Karin will send the October meeting minutes to Peggy to be posted, along with a reminder to have the minutes from July-September posted as well.
- Karin will follow up with Doug LaFave for confirmation of the facts in the November meeting minutes.
- Anto will follow up with Kezia Sullivan for confirmation of the facts in the November meeting minutes and let Karin know the verdict.
- Karin will check in with Peggy about the small alteration to the text on the webpage.
- Dave Stilwell will ask Geoff Milz for the definitions used on the new tax maps we most recently received.
- Dave will ask Maria to check to see who might have much of the from-where-do-people-get-their-water information already available – the Assessor? The Water District?
- Dave, Maria and Charlotte will continue making contacts, having conversations and gathering information about the open space/recreation portion of the inventory.
- Someone needs to volunteer to speak with the King Ferry Fire Department to get the basic facts such as we now have for the Genoa Fire Department.
- Peggy will work with Karin to plan a letter inviting local businesses to a comprehensive planning open house event.
- Dave will talk with Rhonda Fessenden again to get some Saturday morning dates for a

- committee tour and let us know when that will be.
- John Berry will re-contact Judy Wright to see if she could come be part of a panel of speakers on Thursday 14 January instead of giving a presentation at our 11 January meeting.
  - Dave will deliver disks to Charlotte.
  - Charlotte will look over other plans on the disks and elsewhere to see how they deal with open spaces and recreation.
  - Dave and Maria will keep up contacts with Cayuga Watershed and the DEC.
  - When time allows, Karin will gather historical census data to try to track trends in population changes.
  - Karin will type up meeting notes when time allows and distribute advance copies to make it easier to approve them at the next meeting.

#### **6. Next Meetings:**

--Monday 11 January 2010 -- 7:00 PM Genoa Town Hall, unless otherwise notified. This meeting will be a regular Committee meeting to review notes, check in on the progress of action items, and be sure we are all set for the panel discussion. We should also begin planning the community business open house.

--Thursday 14 January 2010 (tentative, time TBA), Genoa Town Hall. We propose to have a panel discussion with speakers from various agencies addressing agricultural planning issues in their areas which may impact our town, with Q&A from the public.

--Monday 8 February 2010 – 7:00 PM Genoa Town Hall, unless otherwise notified. We will debrief after the panel discussion and see how the input from that event affects our next steps, and if it gives us enough to put together a second more focused survey.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Wikoff

Secretary, Town of Genoa Comprehensive Planning Committee