

Town of Genoa Comprehensive Plan Committee

Meeting Notes

Genoa Town Hall, Genoa N.Y.

April, 11, 2011

Present: Susan Tosto, Maria Bachich, David Stillwell, John Berry, Al Armstrong (liaison for the Town of Genoa) Anto Parseghian, Dan Thayer, Lorrie Fessenden, Dave Baildon,

Approved February 7th 2011 meeting notes

Approved March 14 2011 meeting notes

A.1

Introduction of Terry Masterson, Executive Director of the Cayuga Economic Development Agency to the Comprehensive plan Committee.

Terry shared the following background and overview of development in Cayuga County:

- The Economic Development Agency is chartered by the County Legislature for 3 years.
- Cayuga County has 5 major economic sectors: Agriculture, Tourism, Education, Manufacturing and Non-Profits.
- The County has a rather robust and diverse economic base with approximately 30,000 workers and a population of approximately 80,000.
- The County is now undergoing a Strategic Economic Plan.

A discussion ensued with the committee and Terry Masterson primarily regarding economic development and issues of concern raised during the comprehensive planning effort, topics discussed:

- Concern expressed about the economic, environmental, legal, and sustainable viability of the proposed methane pipeline, Terry noted that a Feasibility Study is underway and not much information is available at this time.
- Terry noted electricity costs can limit economic development, a kilowatt hour is about 12 cents in New York and in the west it is 2-3 cents/kilowatt.
- A question about how to balance the needs of agriculture with adjacent residential use, is there a good way to promote harmony and good neighbor practice?
- It was noted small business is leaving the town in the last 15 years or so. The four corners of King Ferry were noted as being of particular concern.
- Lack of high speed internet was noted as being a barrier for local business development.
- State Ag and Markets regulates farming not local rule which is an exception.

- How best to preserve our rural character and also have a tax base that will make our level of taxation reasonable?
- Not much interest in natural gas drilling at this time in the county.
- Concern was raised about the compatibility of natural gas development and wind farm energy production with the local tourism industry.
- Lack of land use planning was raised as being a potential barrier that may limit residential development.

A copy of a list of local businesses created from the Business Community Forum was shared with Terry.

Al Armstrong volunteered to act as the liaison between the committee and the Cayuga Economic Development Agency, Terry will feedback to Al information about concerns raised. The committee thanked Terry for his time and he departed.

A.2 Work on adding more detail to Meeting Summaries.

I've copied Jeanie's questions with action items assigned to committee members and notes.

1. On historic maps, there are several hamlets within the Town of Genoa. Which of these hamlets still exist? East Genoa, Genoa, Little Hollow, King Ferry, Clearview, Five Corners, West Genoa (Belltown), Goodyear? A brief description of each hamlet (any known historic information, and present character of the hamlet) would be very helpful.
Maria's action item. Maria has discovered that the County History by Stork has some information and has engaged the Genoa Historic Association (GHA) to help with research (outcome pending as of 4/21).
2. List of churches (denomination and location) and cemeteries (name and location)
Anto's action item
3. List of any known historic buildings (address or location)
Maria's action item, GHA has been engaged
4. List of operating businesses in the Town
This is assumed to exist on the Town website however I'm unable to locate it help is needed here.
5. Description of existing land use categories in the town and any existing subdivision regulation or procedures used
Jeff Miles at the County will have the land use info, no local regulation at this time.
6. Names of major creeks and direction of flow, and any named wetlands, forest lands, ponds, glens, or other special natural places, etc.
Jeff Miles at the County has good maps
7. Location of any municipal wells, natural springs

8. Total # of farms operating in the Town
9. # of large farms (over 200 head)
10. # of small farms (under 200 head)
11. Total # of dairy cows in the Town
Anto will work on 8-11
12. General size and location of any windmills in the Town
None at this time
13. Location of any utility company facilities
See Maria's attachment.
14. Name, size and location of any parks or conservation land in the Town
None

A.3 David to reach out to Jeanie about the development and timing of the next survey.

A.4 Committee members will forward to David issues that will help inform the next survey, David will organize them and distribute them back to the committee by 4/27 so that we can have a good discussion about the issues during the next meeting 5/2.

The next meeting to be May 2nd

Respectfully submitted, Dave Baildon