

COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING COMMITTEE
May 15, 2007

Members Present: C. Jessup, E. Eicher, L. Gridley, T. Hopkins, B. Reynolds, F. Sinclair, R. Stuck

Others Present: A. Finnemore

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Committee Chairman Charles Jessup.

Administrative Expenses Appropriation:

Funding is needed for administrative expenses related to the preparation of a County Comprehensive Plan. Clarification was made that this funding is completely separate from any appropriation that may be made for the newly created County Planner position. Mr. Stuck pointed out that this stage of the process, if completed by a consulting firm, could reportedly cost \$75,000; thus, the decision was made to accomplish at least this portion in-house, with the possibility of obtaining grants for further steps.

On a motion made by Gridley, seconded by Sinclair and carried, the Allegany County Comprehensive Planning Committee requested an appropriation from the County Board of Legislators in the amount of \$35,000 to be utilized to fund all administrative expenses associated with the preparation of an Allegany County Comprehensive Plan, and that the funds be appropriated to the operating budget of the Allegany County Office of Development. Funds should be transferred from A1990.4 (Contingent) to A6430.4 (Development). **REFERRED TO WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE.**

Next Meeting Dates:

The next two meetings will be held on Tuesday, May 29 and Tuesday, June 5 at the Crossroads Center from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. (committee members are reminded to bring their own supper). The consultant will attend these two initial meetings and will bring a compilation of material from past planning efforts.

Purpose of Committee:

The purpose of this committee is to provide ideas and assistance to the consultant and general oversight to the County Comprehensive Planning process. A timetable was developed by the Planning Board's Ad Hoc Steering Committee on April 5 (included below for information purposes). We are already one month behind due to legalities. Attempts have been made to work on this project for ten to twelve years, but now the project has support.

The HUD Consolidated Plan update is being worked on by Joan Sinclair, who authored the original plan, and Charles Kalthoff, ACCORD Executive Director. When that update is completed, about 50 percent of the data needed for the County Comprehensive Plan can be taken directly from the HUD plan. All of the current planning material will be in one place to pull from, and many of the issues are still the same as ten years ago, so information won't be too out of date. Mr. Sinclair noted that some of the information on agricultural districts and prime farmland from the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan, completed two years ago, can be utilized. Information from the County-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan, which is very current, can also be plugged in. There are several community master plans, such as Cuba's and Alfred's; Belmont is working on one; and Wellsville has an old one.

Mr. Jessup noted that the consultant will guide the next two meetings; five district meetings will be held throughout the summer; and in August, at the Planning Board Annual Picnic, there will be a County-wide presentation to discuss ideas and priorities.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m. following a motion made by Stuck, seconded by Reynolds and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Adele Finnemore, Journal Clerk

*Draft Timetable for Compiling Allegany County's Comprehensive Plan
(From 04/05/07 Planning Board's Ad Hoc Steering Committee Meeting):*

1. *Resolutions by Board of Legislators for creation of a Comprehensive Planning Committee and compensation for professional advisors – Immediate action.*
2. *Confirmation by professional advisors that they will contract to do this – April 20, 2007.*
3. *Comprehensive Planning Committee meets to create a framework and detail of what the Plan will contain – May 12, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. at Crossroads.*
4. *Review of existing plans and inclusion of some of this content with the framework and detail developed at the May 12 Comprehensive Planning Committee meeting held at Crossroads – Mid May to June 2007.*
5. *Legislative District Meetings to be held in five (5) locations (one for each Legislative District) to review and gather input on the Plan – July through August 2007.*
6. *Planning Board Annual Picnic with progress presentation to Legislators and Planning Board members – August 15, 2007.*
7. *Comprehensive Planning Committee reconvenes to review ideas and input from the District Meetings in order to coordinate same with the tentative Plan – Late September 2007.*
8. *Professional advisors write and edit the final draft of the Plan – September through October 2007.*
9. *Plan is turned over to the Board of Legislators for their consideration. SEQR study done with County Legislature as lead agency and with professional input from County Attorney – November through December 2007.*
10. *Public Hearing date set for adoption of Plan – December 2007.*
11. *Public Hearing held for adoption of Plan – January 2008.*
12. *Final adoption of Allegany County's Comprehensive Plan – February 2008.*