

Stuyvesant Greenway Committee II  
October 16, 2008  
Stuyvesant Town Hall

Attending: Gale Bury, Brian Chittenden, Kent Keller, Tom Kilcer, Juanita Knott, Ron Knott, Kristina Kwacz, Mike Naegeli, Bill Vick  
Absent: Peter Donahoe, Bob Leach, Charlene Leach

Mike Naegeli noted a correction to the minutes of the September 25, 2008 meeting: page two, para 3. Delete the sentence beginning “Allendale Road...” and the sentence which follows. Replace with: “Allendale Road is maintained by the Town from Sharptown Road to the Allen Farm. In the past, the Allen family had allowed vehicular access through their field, which provided a continuous route to Newton Hook Road.”

Chairman Ron Knott made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 25, 2008 meeting as corrected. Juanita Knott seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

Ron thanked Greenway Committee members Kristina Kwacz and Juanita Knott for presenting and Bill Vick for attending the October 11, 2008 public workshop. Michele Richardson of the Stuyvesant Recreation Committee also participated with a presentation summarizing possible trail opportunities in the town.

There was a small audience in attendance but Ron noted that they were active participants. Kristina explained that the format included summaries of the recommended actions in each subject area of Waterfront, Trails, and Historic Resources followed by a group exercise where audience members brainstormed ideas which she recorded on a large pad. The categorized sheets were then hung on the walls. At the conclusion of the presentations, participants were given a fixed number of colored dots to indicate their top priorities within each subject area. Kristina stated that the “dot exercise” was very well received and yielded definable results for the committee.

Ron described a brief survey form that was also distributed to attendees. Approximately 10 were completed and handed in.

November 20, 2008 is targeted for the next public workshop, which will cover Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Economic Development. Tom volunteered to produce a DVD with information about agriculture, to be followed by a group exercise:

What are the benefits of having agriculture as the primary use of land in the town?  
What are your concerns about agriculture in the town?

It was proposed that this group exercise use two colors of dots – one for farmers, and one for the general public, to better understand the priorities of each group. The importance of farmers attending was noted, and Brian and Kent agreed to call members of the agricultural community to invite them to the workshop.

Following further discussion, the following workshop format was outlined:

**I. Introduction – Kristina Kwacz**

- A. What is the comprehensive plan?
- B. What has the Town Greenway Committee been working on?
- C. Format of the evening, introduce speakers
- D. Two questions: What do you like about Stuyvesant? What would you like to see improved in Stuyvesant?

**II. Agriculture**

- A. Agricultural issue overview with DVD – Tom Kilcer
- B. Overview of 1996 Recommendations – Ron Knott
- C. Group – Kristina Kwacz
  - 1. What are the benefits of having agriculture as the primary use of land in the town?
  - 2. What are your concerns about agriculture in the town?

**III. Natural Resources**

- A. Overview of 1996 Recommendations – Peter Donahoe
  - 1. Soils – Tom Kilcer
  - 2. Aquifers – Peter Donahoe
  - 3. Scenic Areas – Peter Donahoe

**IV. Economic Development**

- A. Overview of 1996 Recommendations – Ron Knott
- B. Review Zoning Map – Bill Vick
- C. Group – Kristina Kwacz
  - 1. Which forms of economic development do you think might benefit the Town?
  - 2. Which types of housing should the Town support to meet the needs of residents?

**V. Conclusion – next steps**

In related business, Ron asked the committee to consider whether it would be beneficial for the Town to contact the County Farmland Protection Board regarding the draft Columbia County Farmland Protection Plan and recommend that it be adopted. The draft plan may be viewed online at: [www.columbiacountyny.com/CCAFPB/documents/draft6\\_v3.pdf](http://www.columbiacountyny.com/CCAFPB/documents/draft6_v3.pdf)

Ron also asked Kent Keller and Brian Chittenden whether there is a particular type of business that the town could attract that might benefit agriculture. Due to the economies of scale that are required to support these businesses, both farmers noted that this was unlikely.

Kent Keller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm, which was seconded by Tom Kilcer. The motion passed with all in favor. Next committee meeting: Thursday, October 30th at 7:00 p.m., to complete preparatory work for the November workshop. Second public workshop: Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Topics to be covered include Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Economic Development.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Kwacz  
Secretary