Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Zoom Hybrid Meeting Meeting Minutes April 2, 2025

Approved: May 7, 2025



Committee Members Present: Chair Ann DiPetta, Roxanne Marino, Mo Klein, Elizabeth Weatherby, Karl

Klankowski, Alison Weaver, Katelin Olson, Diane Cohen

Town Board Members Present: Mary Bouchard

Town Board Members Present on Zoom: Michael Boggs

Committee Members Absent: Tai Basilius

Quorum Present

Comp Plan Consultant Present: Angelina White Town Staff Present: Niels Tygesen, Mollie Duell

Proceedings

Chair Ann DiPetta and Town Supervisor Katelin Olson called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm at the Town Hall.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Klein motioned to approve the agenda; Klankowski seconded.

Vote: Chair DiPetta, aye; Marino, aye; Klein, aye; Weatherby, aye; Klankowski, aye; Weaver, aye; Olson, aye.

Motion Carried.

Joint Visioning Exercise 2 with Town Board Members

The Committee and Town Board members reviewed the input that was provided by the attendees of the first open house on March 19. Feedback that was received about the draft visioning statements were discussed. Discussion ensued over terminology to use that would reflect community input.

The Town Board adjourned their portion of the meeting at 5:22 PM.

Approval of Past Minutes

Motion: Olson motioned to approve the March meeting minutes as written; Klankowski seconded.

Vote: Chair DiPetta, aye; Marino, aye; Klein, aye; Weatherby, aye; Klankowski, aye; Weaver, aye; Olson, aye.

Motion Carried.

Privilege of the Floor

No members of the public attended the meeting.

Motion: Klein motioned to close privilege of the floor; Klankowski seconded.

Vote: Chair DiPetta, aye; Marino, aye; Klein, aye; Weatherby, aye; Klankowski, aye; Weaver, aye; Olson, aye.

Motion Carried.

Old Business Items

Results of Focus Group 4: Land Use and Rural Issues

White reviewed the discussions from the focus group. Conversations included discussion about the lack of local services for equipment maintenance, expansion of the water district, water contamination, sale and preservation of agricultural land, zoning, and more.

The committee discussed the current state of agricultural resources in the town. Marino noted solar farms are getting attention and suggested the committee look at current Town laws. Klein suggested farmers are concerned about losing land to high-profit solar farms.

Results of Public Forum #1

White spoke about feedback from the event, where strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats analysis exercises were open to the public, similar to what the committee has worked through in previous meetings. Thoughts from residents were submitted in various categories about topics that will be addressed in the comp plan.

Many comments were received regarding the Village. Chair DiPetta mentioned the focus of the comp plan is for the Town of Ulysses outside of the Village, for example the Jacksonville area, and the Village of Trumansburg has their own comp plan.

The committee discussed the feedback which will be posted on the comp plan website.

Discussion ensued over determining feasibility for pursuing the received feedback. All feedback will be documented throughout the comp plan update process.

Survey Update

White stated submissions have raised significantly since the last meeting, and over 350 surveys have been received from residents. Submissions indicated that generally people are interested in having more community space, along with more local shopping options, transit, mixed-use space, and support for agriculture. Commercial development is wanted near the village or around Jacksonville. Water quality issues were also mentioned frequently.

Review Project Schedule

Tygesen spoke about the upcoming schedule. The plan must be finished by 2028 but the goal is to finish by the end of 2025. The committee discussed the possibility of virtual meetings and meeting more frequently to meet this goal.

Next Steps

A. Review Draft Chapters: Housing, Economic Development, and Historic Preservation & Built Environment

B. Planning Process

C. Public Forum #2 Preparation

Member Reports

Weatherby noted there is a public hearing at the next Town Board meeting for the potential land donation.

Motion: Klein motioned to adjourn; Klankowski seconded.

Vote: Chair DiPetta, aye; Marino, aye; Klein, aye; Weatherby, aye; Klankowski, aye, Basilius, aye; Weaver, aye; Olson, aye.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Mollie Duell

Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Secretary