

Village of Hastings on Hudson
Comprehensive Plan Committee

Minutes of Meeting No. 12
April 9th, 2008 at 8:00 pm

Media room of the James Harmon Community Center, 44 Main Street

Present: Jim Metzger, Rebecca Strutton, Kathy Sullivan, Harry Thomas, Carolyn Summers, Lynda Merchant, Betsy Imershein, Richard Bass, Ellen Hendrickx

Excused: Bob Mayer, Steve Corrigan

8:00 Welcome /Roll call/ Acceptance of Minutes of March 29th, 2008

8:05 Report

Invitation to meet with School Board: Kathy Sullivan: The tentative meeting with the School Board is scheduled for 5/19/08 at 8 PM. Kathy will let us know where in the school the meeting will be held. Each member of the CPC should spend some time deciding which questions should be posed to the school board. Harry and Rebecca are going to prepare some questions for review. School board would like questions a few weeks in advance to focus the conversation.

Hunter Update Richard Bass: The students' survey for the downtown business district is being delivered and the electronic survey will start going out tomorrow with reminders to complete the survey. The student's chapters are coming along. If a committee member is sent a chapter to look at, please do so with fresh eyes. Look for spelling and punctuation and please ask them to explain something that is not clear, rather than suggest a direction. Richard reminded us that the course encourages them to articulate their vision. The students are being creative in articulating their vision. The final drafts should be ready the end of April. They will practice May 1st and do their presentation on 5/12 at Hunter and on May 14th in Hastings. The presentation will be a half hour with an additional Q & A session and refreshments. This survey is not intended to replace future surveys conducted by the CPC.

Budget Update Kathy Sullivan: Ellen, Kathy and *Jim* attended the B.O.T. meeting last Tuesday. At the suggestions of Trustees Quinlan and Goodman, Village Manager Fran Frobels has committed to looking further to see if he can find more money for the CPC. The members of the CPC as well as interested community members were encouraged to attend and participate in next Tuesday's B.O.T. meeting, when the budget would again be discussed. We should know by the end of April or early May about the money set aside for the Comprehensive Plan. There is some difference between what we need and what we will get. Maybe we need to look into some more grant moneys. Richard Bass will talk to Angie and Jerry Quinlan about sustainability grants. Lynda Merchant stated that she cannot attend,

but will write a letter in support of more funding. Anyone who cannot attend is encouraged to write a letter as well..

Planning consultant: Richard, Ellen, Harry: A number of RFQ's and RFP's have been received and the committee needs to get together to discuss them Fran Froebel was going to talk to Angie Witkowski to see about more RFQ's.

8:30 Time for Committee to regroup/review re procedures: It was suggested that the CPC might want to discuss procedure regarding any issues in case we have a disagreement about a topic. One suggestion is that we simply take a vote.. Another possible topic is discussion about the number of meetings that can be missed by members of the CPC. It was pointed out that we may need to consult the Board of Trustees help because they actually picked the committee.

Carolyn also would like some time at the next meeting to discuss a meeting she attended about facilitating meetings. She will invite a couple of other Hasting residents that were at the same meeting.

8:40 Small meetings: Carolyn and Jim: Jim and Carolyn presented the script for the small group meetings to gather information for the larger meeting in June. The committee actually did a run-through of the presentation and answered the questions as proposed. The four proposed questions are

- Identify the best things in the Village.
- Who are we- as a Village, a community?
- What's working, or not working in Hastings?
- Who do we want to be?

The final question to be asked is "Is there anything you would like us to take back to the committee?"

The CPC would like to have a presence at the Spring Fling to distribute and collect information Kathy will set up tentative meetings at Hillside, Library and Community Center.

A CPC committee member will attend Uniontown Company meeting in early May to request the use of the firehouse meeting space.

Some procedural items:

- We need 4 separate pages to record responses - one for each question
- We need a sign up sheet for attendance to incorporate e-mail addresses of people willing to help, including what areas they are interested in.
- Some presenters might prefer to format the presentation using bullet points.

Committee requested that agenda for next meeting to include further process discussion, discussion of Large Tracts Study and as noted in Minutes, The Scenarios update by Carolyn

9:20 Public Comment

- Marsha Brewster is doing a comprehensive plan for West Harlem and Washington Heights. She pointed out that Hastings has the advantage of an artistic community, musicians, authors, and as being rather liberal. She suggested that one of our small meetings on April 27th, 2008 be held at the Woman's Professional Brunch Group that she is a member of. Ellen Hendrickx offered to make the presentation as she is a member of the group.

Jeremiah Quinlan spoke as our trustee liaison to tell us that there is a public hearing on Tuesday at 8PM on the budget. If we are looking for more money than is in the budget for a consultant, we have \$30,000- \$15,000 grant money and \$15,000 from the Village budget. We need to be proactive about this issue to get the money we need to finish this process. If you can not attend the meeting to speak, please send an email to the BOT.

No Topic reports at this meeting.

10:00 PM Adjourn

Next Meeting April 23rd, 2008 8:00 pm

Action Points

- Harry and Rebecca will prepare some questions for the school board meeting.
- Lynda will get a list of clubs in the high school
- Attend BOT meeting regarding the budget or send an email.
- Carolyn will send new script for us to look at.
- Kathy will set up tentative meetings Hillside, Library and Community Center

Comprehensive Plan Committee Broadcast Schedule for WHOH-TV Channel 75

Saturday and Sundays at 10 AM and 8 PM

<http://Whoh-tv.org>

