Village of Hastings on Hudson Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting #16 June 25, 2008

Attending: Harry Thomas, Kathy Sullivan, Jim Metzger, Ellen Hendrickx, Lynda Merchant, Carolyn Summers, Betsy Imershein, and Rebecca Strutton.

Absent: Richard Bass, Steve Corrigan

Welcome: 8:00 PM

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

Kathy Sullivan reported that Bob Mayer has tendered his resignation from our committee. She publicly thanked him for his work. She also reported that the Board of Trustees would appoint a new person to our committee.

8:05 PM Reports

Community planning meeting June 18th, 2008

Initial Impressions: Rebecca said it was great and there seemed to be a lot of team work and cooperation at her table. Ellen reported that she was appreciative of the participants who came out for the meeting. Lynda thanked all participants and said she found it interesting that the village email seemed to bring us the best results for attendance. Jim pointed out that we should do all the advertising we can. Betsy suggested that people do not know about the village emails. Jim pointed out that they should go to hastingsgov.com and sign up for the alerts to be better informed. Betsy spoke about the definite issues of disagreement but the discussion was not combative. She felt everyone respected and was accepting of the differing opinions. Carolyn spoke about how subdued and non confrontational the meeting seemed and that it was a positive step forward. Kathy spoke about after the euphoria wore off we need to figure out how to reach out to others who did not come and voice their opinion. This committee should not jump to any conclusions. Harry Thomas said he hoped the consultant could bring others in. Jim spoke about needing more preparation for the last question. Betsy agreed and said before we do any more of these meetings it would be great to have had more preparation. People needed more time on the questions. Kathy spoke about the late hour of the meeting and that people had to leave. Betsy asked that we have no more public meetings until the consultant is on board to help shape and organize the work.

RFP status: Planning Consultant

Ellen stated that the committee had fleshed out the original outline and that they were using two or three other villages RFP's as a guide. Harry said that there is quite a large scope to the work. We did get a boiler plate from the other villages about what might be necessary to include in the RFP, but we need to get specific about what work we want the consultant to do. Ellen said the committee will meet again to review and amend the instrument and share the result with the committee. Kathy asked if that could be done at the next meeting in July. Harry pointed out that if the village is spending \$70000 on the

consultant we had better be sure that we know what the consultant should do. What \$10,000 items should this person tackle? Betsy mentioned that the CPC should be a liason between the Board of Trustees and the consultant. Ellen asked that we have a format for the RFP that allows us to compare apples to apples. Betsy added that a cost analysis of work would be good to have. Harry said that the waterfront has to be one of the jobs for the consultant. It isn't clear at this point what the consultant should do about the waterfront. Ellen said that at a joint meeting of the LWRP and the Board of Trustees the Board of Trustees asked for an updated data. Ellen thought it would be a good idea for all the Boards and Committees to prepare a "report" for the consultant on their achievements and goals. After much discussion it was decided that as a committee member we should send Harry a list of anything we feel the consultant should tackle and the committee will put together the RFP for us for the next meeting. Kathy also informed the committee that they can send it to John Dennehey for his input as well as the Westchester County Planning board.

Additional Meetings

Conservation Commission

Architecture Review Board

Department of Public Works

Police

Fire Department

Farmer's Market

The following should be added to the list of additional meetings we might want to have.

Village Arts Commission

High School Students

Chamber of Commerce

Building Department

Zoning Board

Betsy mentioned that it would be nice to have Fran Froeble send an email to employees asking them to get in touch with our committee so that the employees would not feel disloyal by talking to us. The decision was made that because our list of meetings is quite extensive and it might be a better use of our time to have the different constituents sends us a report with information on key issues instead of meeting with them individually. We might get a better response if we invite the various agencies and employees to contact us individually. Ellen added that it might be their goals and objectives for their department. Jim will reach out to Fran to send the email.

Kathy reported that thanks to Raf, the representative from G.I.S. (**Geographic Information system**) will be at our meeting in July.

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Upcoming meeting topics
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Possible issue for plan to address:

7.9.08 G.I.S.

RFP

Refine the data from the meetings

8.13.08 Review existing data
Hunter College Comprehensive Plan
Look a quality of data
Get an update on the consultant

9:20 PM Public Comment

David Skolnik asked at what stage is the data consolidation of each table at the big meting? Kathy reported that after the meeting this evening we will work on that and post it on the web page as soon as it is in an understandable format.

Marcia Brester asked if the data from the large meeting be prioritized at this point. Kathy said no.

Jim spoke to the camera and asked everyone to come to the meeting to listen and learn. He suggested email as a good communication tool to let us know what the public knows and what questions they may have.

8:5PM Next meetings Meeting once per month for July and August July 9th, 2008 8 PM
August 13th, 2008 8PM

We will review the data sheets from the large meeting off camera.

9:30 PM Adjournment

Approved July 9th, 2008