

Village of Washingtonville
9 Fairlawn Drive
Washingtonville, NY 10992
845-496-3321

Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting
Meeting Location: 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville, NY
Saturday February 15, 2023 at 7:00PM

Present:

Alma Gonzalez, Bob Buchalski, Carole McCann, Celina Rofer, Donna Jacaruso, George Lanzot, Jennifer Nieves, Jerry Norris, Trustee Jimmy Kolar, Mayor Joseph Bucco, Jodi Connolly, Patrice Gesner, Deputy Mayor Valerie Laudato, Verdinia Washington

C. Rofer called the meeting to order at 7:01PM and lead the pledge of allegiance.

C. Rofer introduced Amy Fitzgerald, Senior Planner with Behan Planning & Design. A. Fitzgerald went through the maps she sent to us on Monday and explained them in detail.

Alma Gonzalez presented to the committee. Alma, Joanne Wiley and James Casazza have been working on the Natural Resources, Stormwater Management and Open Spaces. She went through the notes they shared with us (in the Shared Google Drive). They feel that signage is needed throughout the village to identify open spaces, memorials, etc. They want to create an open space inventory. They also want to identify ADA compliant areas.

V. Laudato mentioned the video on the village website that shows an aerial view from a drone.

A. Fitzgerald went through some of her thoughts on the village based on an outsider's perspective. She believes a challenge we face is that there are several vacant parcels with unknown ownership (based on Orange County ImageMate website). We need to clean this up so we know what we can do with these spaces. A. Fitzgerald went through the group's notes and gave her feedback.

G. Lanzot asked if we will be trying to connect existing open spaces/trails to the rail trail. Yes.

A. Fitzgerald went through her draft inventory.

G. Lanzot asked if we are enveloped by water. A. Fitzgerald said yes because of the Moodna Creek- 100/500 year flood events. We have to know where the boundaries are and that any development near these areas would need to have special measures taken.

D. Jacaruso mentioned that there is a liaison between FEMA and Kelly Roche from the DEC who can send flood maps.

A. Fitzgerald continued: Spoke about Farms, Floods, Moffat Library, Drainage.

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After we went through A. Fitzgerald's draft inventory she asked the committee what we would like to see in the village. It was a great brainstorm conversation with the committee members which listed the following ideas:

- Contiguous sidewalks
- Green parks
- Connect to open spaces and parks
- Side walks by HUD housing
- More crosswalks
- V. Laudato mentioned Fishkill- amazing crosswalk
- More benches
- Young active recreation parks/areas
- Seniors- accessibility
- Passive Recreation
- Moodna Creek access points for kayaking
- Basketball Courts
- Tables for Chess/Checkers/Pokemon
- Teens- need activities
- Signage with kiosks, QR codes to website
- Newsletter- V. Laudato mentioned that it goes out with the quarterly water/sewer bill
- Update Village website
- Chamber to help get businesses with QR code
- Welcome Wagon
- Public use gazebos and pavilions
- Community Garden
- Volunteer Fair
- Village Founders Day

The next topic for discussion when A. Fitzgerald returns next month is Community Character.

What A. Fitzgerald expects from us: The current state, what challenges exist and what is the ideal state.

Based on advice from our Planners J. Behan and A. Fitzgerald we will be reducing our meetings from 4 times a month to 2. They have seen committee burnout with an overly aggressive schedule. A. Fitzgerald is confident that this will not cause any delay as she will continue to work on the draft plan. Therefore, our next meeting previously scheduled for February 22, 2023 will be canceled.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday March 4, 2023 at 10am at Village Hall.
Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.