

Newfield Planning Board Meeting

June 15, 2011

In Attendance:

Planning Board: Gary Goff (Chair), Randy Brown, Christine Ranney, Jim Hausteina (secretary)

Minutes submitted by: Jim Hausteina

Agenda Items

- Debriefing of “open door” meetings.
- More insight on Newfield’s “Critical Environmental Areas” committee
- Debriefing from people who attended any of the three PAUSE meetings at the Fire Hall
- Debriefing on how Gary Goff’s presentation at the Rod and Gun Club went.
- Update on upcoming public input facilitated meetings.

Open Door Meetings

Open door meetings at the Town Hall were scheduled on Saturday, June 11, 2011 from 9 AM to noon and Sunday, June 12, 2011 from 1 PM to 4 PM. Approximately 13 individuals showed up. A major concern was development of the gas industry and fracking in the area. Individuals who came to these meetings appeared to be supportive of the Planning Board’s mission.

Comments received will be documented as public input for future use in writing the Comprehensive Plan.

Critical Environmental Areas

Richard Driscoll had contacted Gary Goff with information on the Critical Environmental Areas initiative started by a group of Newfield citizens. On June 15, Gary Goff met with their leader, Jeffner Allen. She will be attending our July 6 meeting to discuss CEA’s with the entire PB.

To date, only Coy Glen is on the list of Critical Environmental Areas for Tompkins County. See <http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/25156.html>.

PAUSE Meetings

Tony Russo had attended one of the PAUSE (People Against Unsafe Sources of Energy) meetings and will be available to give a synopsis at a later meeting of the Planning Board.

Rod and Gun Club Presentation

Gary Goff addressed the members of the Rod and Gun Club at their June 15th meeting. Of particular interest to members were protected lands and conservation easements and the need for a Comprehensive Plan. Approximately 15-20 people attended. Gary called Andy Zepp, Director of Finger Lakes Land Trust and suggested that he might offer to give a presentation to the Club so that they may learn more about its mission and activities.

Public Input Facilitated Meetings

Gary Goff has continued to be in discussion with Nancy Potter (Tompkins County CCE) regarding the facilitation of three meetings where Inventory Report topics will be discussed. The library may be used in lieu of the High School auditorium as it is air conditioned.

The Planning Board may have an opportunity for a Cornell graduate student to help with the Comprehensive Plan writing, late summer and fall. Gary Goff has been investigating this option which would be a “special credit project.”

ACTION ITEMS:

- No additional action items.