

**Town of Ancram  
Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting  
February 11, 2008**

**Present:** Art Bassin, Barry Chase, Bonnie Hundt, Kyle Lougheed, Don MacLean, Leah Wilcox,

**Absent:** Gene Aleinikoff, Jim Bryant, Chris Sommerhoff

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The Comp Plan Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Art Bassin at 7 PM.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the 4/11/08 minutes. Motion carried.

**Survey Results/Cross Tabs**

Mr. Bassin suggested the Committee review the survey results question by question and identify possible cross tabs which might lend more insight to the data.

Before the detailed review of the data began, several Committee members commented on how renters, individuals under 40 and people with children at home seemed underrepresented in the survey.

Ms. Wilcox suggested that the Committee identify specific comments and issues which were mentioned in the text answers and the general comments and send them to the Town Board to make sure the Town board was aware of these concerns.

Mr. MacLean asked that we review with Nan Stolzenburg how statistically significant responses from only 10 or 20 or 30 people were, and what the cut off was for statistical relevance. Mr. Bassin said he recalled from last week that 205 responses was the threshold of statistical significance for this survey, but would double check with Nan. This issue could be important in that cross tabs on small sample sizes might not make any sense and just cost time and money without providing any valid additional insights

Mr. MacLean also suggested we check with Nan if it was possible and desirable to compare statistically the results from the workshops with the results from the survey..

Without knowing the time/cost of doing these cross tabs, and with the expectation that Nan and Don will be giving us recommendations for what they think the important cross tabs are, the Committee developed the following list of cross-tabs and requests for additional data for review with Nan:

- 1) Renters (Q5) with where they live (hamlet or non-hamlet), age, how long they have lived in Ancram and if they are full time or part time residents
- 2) Q7a -- Those who own land who rent it to farmers or farm it themselves (7a) – can we distinguish between the owner/farmers and the owners who rent to farmers?

- 3) Q8f – Cross tab retirees to where they live (hamlet/non-hamlet), FT/PT, years in Ancram
- 4) Q10b – Cross tab individuals under 40 by hamlet/non-hamlet, FT/PT, type of employment, children at home, job
- 5) Q12l Affordable housing -- Cross tab affordable housing with kids at home, property size, age, FT/PT, years in Ancram
- 6) Q 14/15 Encourage Agriculture -- Cross tab 14 and 15 a through f to land ownership and ag employment
- 7) Q16 Gravel – Cross tab to land ownership, location (hamlet/non-hamlet) FT/PT, years living in Ancram
- 8) Q17 and 18 Population and housing growth – Cross tab to age, land ownership, FT/PT, years in Ancram
- 9) Q19 Types of residential development – cross tab to age, affordable housing (12l), FT/PT, years in Ancram
- 10) Q20 Affordable housing – Cross tab to Q19 (types of development)
- 11) Q21-24 Lot sizes – Cross tab to hamlet/non-hamlet, age, FT/PT, years in Ancram
- 12) Q33/34 Hamlet revitalization – Cross tab to hamlet/non-hamlet; age, FT/PT, years in Ancram
- 13) Q36 Town government – Cross tab to hamlet/non hamlet, age, FT/PT, years in Ancram
- 14) Q36 i and j – Code Enforcement/Permits – Can we find out if the respondents not satisfied with I and j are the same people, or different people?
- 15) Q37 Town Activities – Cross tab to hamlet/non-hamlet, age, FT/PT, years in Ancram, kids at home

### **Comp Plan Outline/Community Profile/Vision Statements**

The Committee decided to review the Comp Plan Outline, Community Profile and Vision statements again at the end of the month after more thoroughly absorbing the results of the survey.

### **Water Study**

The Water Study, done by Steve Winkley of the NY Rural Water Association, had been received and is on the web site. The summary of the report, but not the full report, had

been circulated by email. Steve Winkley will attend the Saturday 2/16 meeting to present the Water Study.

### **Grants**

Mr. Bassin said he would present the Farmland Protection Plan grant application to the Town Board at the 2/14 Town Board meeting. Mr. Bassin indicated we hoped to hear back on the Economic Development grant application before the end of February.

### **Community Communications**

No responses yet from Community groups interested in meeting with Comp Plan members to discuss the Comp Plan process. The Long Lake Board may invite Comp Plan members to participate with their Board in the regular monthly conference call.

### **Farmland Trust Meeting 2/28**

Mr. Bassin mentioned again that the Farmland Trust was holding a one day conference in Saratoga Springs on 2/28 on “Growing NY Farms in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” You can get more information and register by going to the Farmland Trust Website, [www.farmland.org](http://www.farmland.org), going to the NY site and clicking on the 2/28 Event at Saratoga. Or call them at 518-581-0078.

### **New Committee Member**

Mr. Bassin mentioned that Kyle Lougheed had decided to stay on the Comprehensive Plan Committee. The Committee agreed to continue to identify possible future Committee Members in order to have a small pool of backups in case of any future resignations from the Committee.

### **Ancram Mill Article in the Independent**

The Committee discussed the email from Ancram Mill Manager Gary Kennedy which expressed concerns about the article in the Independent similar to the concerns the Committee had expressed at its 2/4 meeting (see 2/4 Meeting Minutes). The Committee noted its appreciation to Mr. Kennedy for sharing his concerns about the Independent article.

### **Next Meetings**

Mr. Bassin indicated the next meetings would be at 10 AM on Saturday 2/16 to review the Water Study, and on Monday 2/25 at 7PM. The meeting schedule for March will be discussed at the 2/16 meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Chase and seconded by Ms. Hundt to adjourn the meeting at 9.10 PM. Motion carried.