

March 17, 2011 Meeting of Afton Comprehensive Plan Committee -- Summary

Present: Mary Jo Long, April Leggett, Elana Hulsey, Rema Loeb, John Lawrence, Bob Davis (guest from Town of Guilford Planning Board).

Chenango County is working on a community plan.

Barbara Heller has tentatively agreed to write a history of Afton for the Comprehensive Plan, which will utilize Charles Decker's wealth of information. We also discussed the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Next month Gerry and Mary Jo should bring a copy of Village and Town's for reference.

Afton has Site Plan Review but not zoning. This needs to be reviewed for Comprehensive Plan to see if it needs updating. Elana and April come from areas where zoning is considered a good thing but, traditionally, rural communities like Afton have viewed zoning as limiting one's right to do whatever they want with their property.

Planning for emergency services: Matt Beckwith, who is head of Chenango County Fire & Emergency Services, provided Guilford's supervisor with EMS call summary for 2010. We would probably need our supervisor to make that request. We can also get law enforcement statistics from State Police and from Village Police. Also need to get 2000 Census Data on Afton so that we can compare. Population data is supposedly out but we don't know how to get it. Also full data can be expected in October, 2011.

We should begin drafting sample questions to ask of various groups who would provide information to the Committee and then go to them (1) to seek information and (2) encourage them to respond to the survey when it comes to them. E.g. Emergency Squad, Fairgrounds Association, churches, school, assessor. This is described as a Marketing Plan and Elana will work on a list.

Next month, bring in samples of survey questions and review the questions that were drafted last year. Bob Davis from Guilford's Planning Board told us what Guilford is doing for its Comp. Plan. He will send us a copy of Greene's Comp Plan because it has the questions that were used. Will need a budget to disseminate them and that may have to wait until next year, but we should ask Town and Village when budget requests are made. Guilford will have a couple of questions about gas drilling. This may help encourage people to fill out the survey in order to be heard on this issue. Could a separate survey of young people be done through the school?

Bulletin Board discussed.