

Attendees: Roberta Roll, Jerry Kraus, Rus Davis, Nancy Schultz, Jeanne Mettler

John Pollock absent

## New Businesses

Meet with Ken & Kevin from Passe Flore and the Village Scoop in Hillsdale.

They would have liked the steps to take starting a business to be written down. This is a complex task because every situation is different. Can the planning board help? Should there be a permanent committee to advise businesses?

## Existing Businesses

Talk to Copake Hamlet businesses as a committee, in a non-threatening way, one or two businesses at a time.

List the businesses. (Rus?)

Potential questions:

- Why did you choose Copake?
- What's the best thing about doing business in Copake?
- What's the most difficult thing about doing business here?
- What do you envision for your business in 5 years?
- What do they need to grow their business?
- How could the town help you grow your business?
- What impact has the town government had on your business, positive or negative?

## Appearance of the Hamlet

We need to be cautious approaching businesses and homeowners in the town to improve the appearance of their buildings. Ask their needs first, try to find ways to help, ask the Code Enforcement Officer to identify violations without issuing official sanctions, and only in very serious cases when all other options have failed invoke the authority of the local ordinances.

## Hamlet Plan

The plan will enable people to have a vested interest in improving the hamlet.

We should speak to the leaders of the Hillsdale Hamlet Plan soon (Sept 26?)

All committee members should review the Hillsdale Hamlet Plan first. It is available at this link:

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/37454760/Final-Hillsdale-Report-08-06-10>

This is a very large file so I will not put it in the DropBox. If you scroll down the right hand column you can select from the table of contents. You can also click on the '+' to make it bigger.

We need to make a list of questions to ask the Hillsdale Hamlet people.

## Other

We want to focus on fact gathering and information gathering for now before we take up the action items in the Comprehensive Plan.

### CEAB, ATC and Community Service

We need to determine how we will work with the CEAB and ATC. We may get some guidance after the next meeting between the Board and the Comprehensive Plan committee. Should we invite the CEAB to our October 10 meeting or attend the CEAB Oct 9 meeting?

We should also dialog with Copake Community Service Inc. to determine how we can leverage both missions.

We need to learn what turned some other towns around.

- Talk to Charles
- Millerton
- Hudson

### Anchor Business(es)

We need an anchor business to justify the upgrade of the infrastructure and patronize our businesses weekdays year round.

- Sporting goods with Guido's model
- Cabellas
- Insurance operations center

We need to establish criteria for determining the best anchor business alternative(s), e.g. number and quality of jobs, will the businesses benefit during their slow periods (weekdays, after summer, etc., will they attract other businesses?

### Defining the Hamlet

The census maps have been put in the DropBox. The task force needs to determine which census blocks should be used to calculate census data for the hamlet for the purpose of grant applications, etc. We should also recommend that the town board request that the hamlet be defined as a 'census place'.

## Action Items

Roberta – Try to meet with Hillsdale Hamlet representatives on Sept 26. (With CSC too?)

Jerry – Schedule a meeting with Kevin & Ken. See if Sept 10 would work with their schedule or find another time.

Unassigned – Meet with CEAB on Oct 10? (Note: The CEAB meets on Oct 9. Should we also offer to come to their meeting then?)

Rus – Can you make a list of businesses in the Hamlet?