

Minutes of the Village of Rhinebeck
Comprehensive Plan
Thursday, September 14th, 2023

The September 14th, 2023 meeting was called to order by Matt Johnston at 6:00pm at Village Hall, 76 East Market Street, Rhinebeck, NY with the following members in attendance:

Matt Johnston, Chair
Michele Grieg (Consultant)
Elijah Bender
Deirdre Burns
John Clarke
Jeff Cotter
Eleanor Pupko (Remote)
Steve Rosenberg
Louis Turpin

Approval of Previous Minutes. Minutes of the August 10th meeting were approved with corrections by motion of Louis Turpin and seconded by John Clarke.

Matt acknowledged that his role will change as he will be a resident of Red Hook and transition to a non-voting member. 2 members strongly agreed with Matt continuing to see the process through. 10 voting members remain on the Comprehensive Plan Committee. One member asked that members be present when this plan is presented to the public.

Some members of the group were able to meet with Elizabeth Spinzia regarding intermunicipal issues. The notes of this visit will be shared.

Topics for Further Discussion as of 9/14:

- **Maximum House Size:** Michele believes this is an issue of historic preservation. More information will be gathered to that end.
- **Urban Agriculture:** There was discussion of whether the Village should remove impediments to urban agriculture including the keeping of chickens (hens). 2 members supported this recommendation while several others were against it. Members of the public also spoke out against the keeping of hens in the Village. Michele suggested minimum lot size and setback requirements for this to continue. One member was in support of allowing this on larger lots and on the outskirts of the Village.

- Current recommendation of 2 accessory dwelling units per single family and 1 per two family to be adopted as adaptive reuse and promoting preservation of existing outbuildings. New construction of accessory dwelling units should only be constrained by lot size and septic limitations. The group felt that natural constraints and regulatory constraints were enough and there was no need to set a fixed limit.
- Housing Trust: This was discussed by the group as an idea for intermunicipal work.
- Bulkeley School: It is now understood that the Library will remain on West Market Street. Many believe community facilities should be centrally located. One member feels that we can speak generally as to needs but not to preference as to specific property.
- Town Hall Relocation: Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the limited space at the Village Hall with the Firehouse and a potential relocation of the Town Hall facility. One member has concepts they will share at the next meeting. The needs of all entities will have to be explored. The Town Hall has the ability to be modified for additions and more space.
- Striping Parking Spaces and Paid Parking: It was discussed that paid parking options would be the next step should striping not suffice to ease parking crunches. An escalating approach to enforcement was favored.
- Livingston Street Permit Parking: One member wanted to grandfather this in but make a strong recommendation to not allow this elsewhere. The parking spaces on Livingston Street total 29 that are not available for general use. One member expressed serious concern over any changes to this setup. Many were in favor of removing the permit parking altogether and felt that it sets a bad precedent especially in light of other residential streets that closely straddle the Village Center District. There was no resolution to this discussion and there will be further discussion at the Leadership Circle Meeting on Friday at 1PM.
- Trail Loop: Discussion to take into account Town opportunities for this trail and the Greenbelt.

● **Adjournment:** There being no further business, a motion for adjournment was made at 8:54 pm. The next meeting will be on October 12th .