

**Steering Committee Meeting  
Joint Comprehensive Plan for Town of Chautauqua and Village of Mayville  
Town of Chautauqua Municipal Building  
2 Academy Street  
Mayville, N.Y.**

**February 15, 2023, 7:00 P.M.**

**Present:** Scott Cummings, Chairman; Tom Carlson; Jessica Emhardt; Sorena Gillkinson; Tim Hull; Julie Lescynski; Hank Navarro; Dan Roush; Mary Schiller; Sharon Smead; Mark Smith, Co-Chairman; Rick Syper

**Excused Absent Members:** Russell Boehner; Zach Stahlsmith

Scott Cummings called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Rick Syper made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on January 31, 2023; seconded by Mary Schiller. All voted aye, motion carried.
2. Review of Community Survey Data

Grace DeSantis from Barton & Loguidice gave a presentation of the resulting data collected from the community survey that was performed between October 11, 2022 and January 31, 2023. There were 357 digital and 35 hard copies, a total of 392 surveys submitted. Scott commented that postcards were sent to all property owners within the Town and renters within the Village notifying them of the survey opportunity. Grace also mentioned that further demographics are available through the New York State Census records that could compliment the findings from the survey.

It was noted that the responses did not include members of the community between the ages of 15 and 24. This indicates that more work needs to be done with future data collections targeting this age group.

During the presentation the committee members and others present held several discussions on the results of the survey. Some areas of specific discussion included the following issues:

- A. The various differences between the Town, Village, and Chautauqua Institution
- B. The lack of Broadband internet services and the benefits if provided to the area
- C. The request for restaurants, entertainment, a variety of other retail businesses
- D. A lack of life sustaining jobs that could be provided by a manufacturing facility
- E. Tourism seems to be all that is ever promoted for the area
- F. Although not included in the survey, drug abuse is a very real and large problem
- G. The library was one of the highly regarded assets listed for the community due to the extensive services they provide

- H. 88 responders to the survey commented that they live here because of Chautauqua Institution
- I. The question of franchises was discussed at length with locally owned preferred

### 3. Vision/Mission Statement

Scott encouraged the committee members to review Vision/Mission Statements from other Comprehensive Plans for ideas to develop one for our Plan. To feel free to share any thoughts and ideas with other members of the committee before the next meeting to get a head start working on our Statement.

### 4. Update on Grant Status

As it stands now, the work has currently been completed under the first contract with Barton & Loguidice. We are currently waiting for further information from New York State before we can contract with a consulting firm to carry on and complete the Comprehensive Plan. NYS will contact the Town to set up a meeting to go over the requirements of the grant, sign for the grant and the steps the Town and Village will need to follow to receive the funds.

In the meantime, the committee can continue to meet and work on our Vision/Mission Statement then other areas to begin developing the Plan.

### 5. Report of Committee Members

Rick Syper requested that the answers to the survey regarding Chautauqua Institution be separated out to help determine how the Town and Village could best work with the Institution to develop a more inclusive relationship with the entire community.

### 6. Public Input

At this time, after the lengthy discussions as mentioned above, there were no further comments from those present.

- 7. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, 7:00 p.m. at the Carlson Community Center, Lakeside Park, Mayville.

At the next meeting, the committee will work on developing a Vision/Mission Statement and a list of areas noted in the survey results that we can begin focusing on.

- 8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon M. Smead