

Housing Board, Town of Pound Ridge
Meeting of January 5, 2009, 8:00 PM
Town House Dining Room

Minutes

Present: Kitty Wynkoop, Carol Powers, Jerry Bisceglia, Suzy Beatty, Ken Olsen, Josina van der Maas (Chair), Dick Lyman (Town Board), Mary LeGrand (Record Review), Bill Harding (Comprehensive Plan)

Absent: Mary LaTronica

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:07 PM.

The Minutes of the Meeting of November 3, 2008, were approved as submitted.

The Board welcomed Bill Harding, who presented an overview of the draft of the Town's Comprehensive Plan, tailored to the interests of the Housing Board. There was lively discussion of some of the wording as well as stated goals in the plan. The Housing Board had specific comments on the following:

- Land Use and Zoning – “The Town’s present character as a single-family residential community should be maintained ...” The use of “single-family” was discussed, with the conclusion that it might better be eliminated, since the Housing Board’s opinion is that maintaining and increasing housing diversity should be a goal. This wording is also found in the “Regional Context” section.
- Scotts Corners – should there be more aggressive goals, keeping in mind that there might be future technologies that could open up more opportunities that are now restricted due to topology (sewage and water)?
- Scotts Corners – should housing diversity goals focus only on Scotts Corners?
- Town-Owned Properties - "The Town should place a conservation easement or other protective designation on Town-owned open space lands that are not dedicated park lands. In the alternative, the Town should investigate the transfer of ownership of such properties to a local land conservancy or trust, in order to protect them as open space in perpetuity." The view held by the Housing Board is that there should be a balance between the needs of the people of Pound Ridge and the environmental objectives. The subject of the former Lawther property was discussed again.

We also asked about the review cycle of the Comprehensive Plan. Bill suggested that it might be on a five or ten year cycle, although this has not been decided yet. Whether the Comprehensive Plan is formally adopted or not does not make a lot of difference.

Suzy Beatty, Housing Board liaison to A-Home, commented briefly on the occupancy of Scotts Ridge, the A-Home facility on Westchester Avenue. She believes that all twelve units have been spoken for, but will give us an update at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Housing Board is on Monday, February 2, 2009, at 8:00 PM.

The meeting closed at 9:57 PM with thanks and complements to Bill Harding for his work on the Comprehensive plan and his presentation.

Josina van der Maas, Chair