

Comprehensive Plan Work Group
Town of North Dansville & Village of Dansville
14 Clara Barton Street
Dansville, NY 14437

Minutes for Monday, June 18, 2024

Meeting was called to order by Nancy Nice at 6:00pm

Work Group members:	Chairperson, Nancy Nice (Planning Board)	Present
	Katie Infantino, Secretary (Planning Board)	Present
	Chuck Menosky (Planning Board)	Absent
	Kathy Button (Village Board)	Present
	Jeff Weidrick (Village Board)	Present
	Bob Infantino (Town Board)	Present
	David Luce (Town Board)	Absent
	Jared Bridge (Planning Board)	Present
	Ann Lafford (Community)	Absent
	Quinn Golden (Community)	Present
	Marcia Miller (Community)	Present
	Karen Howell (Community)	Absent
	Sue DeMuth (Community)	Present
	Karen Schleyer (ZBA)	Present
	Chuck Infantino (ZBA)	Present
	Sue Mettler (Community)	Absent

Guests: Charlie Perkins, Scott Tracy

Minutes: A motion was made by Quinn Golden to accept the March 26, 2024 minutes with the addition of the definition of prior notice, “if a municipality doesn’t know there is a problem then they are not liable.” **2nd** by Karen Schleyer. All in favor 11 AYE, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTAIN, **motion passed.**

Old Business -

Marcia Miller - Pennysaver

- Marcia will advertise again in the community section of the Penny Saver.
-

Susan DeMuth - Grants

- She will get the grants committee together soon.
- Sue is trying to contact the Livingston County Grant writer.
- Sue met with Bill Bacon and he gave her a lot of information.
- Charlie Perkins and Jeff Wiedrick said they are unsure if any money has been budgeted for a grant writer from Livingston County.
- Ann Lafford and Kathy Button are on the committee.

Quorum

- **A motion was made by** Jeff Wiedrick that a quorum should consist of at least 7 committee members, **2nd** by Bob Infantino. All in favor 11 AYE, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, **motion passed.**

Co-Chair

- Nancy asked if anyone was interested in being the co-chair of the committee. Please talk to her if you have any interest.

New Business - Speakers

Scott Tracy- Superintendent of Public Works for the Village of Dansville

- Kathy Button, Barry Haywood, and Scott met and looked into grants.
- Sidewalk grants are high on anyone's list.
- Scott has looked into sidewalk programs of other villages.
 - Mt. Morris does not have a program. If they have a large project they will do the street and sidewalks and it's paid for by the municipality.
 - Wayland is trying to come up with a program. They budget \$7K each year for sidewalks and they replace what they can.
 - Geneseo replaces the sidewalks that are bad and bill homeowners.
 - In Avon the homeowners are responsible but they spend \$10K replacing broken sidewalks. It's in their law that the homeowner is responsible.
- Scott would like to replace all the sidewalks when they replace streets.
- It's very hard to skip around and do sidewalks here and there.
- He would like to have 1 sidewalk on Spruce Street when they replace them.
- Put the sidewalks on the wire side of the street and trees only on the side without wires.
- Busier streets should have two sidewalks.
- There could be a tax on the whole village and hire crew to do it during the summer.
- He would like to do the 17 sidewalks from the current list because they have been waiting.
- Hanson's concrete is \$210/yard and Spalinia is \$186/yard. To do a 60 foot sidewalk is about \$840 not including labor, stone, or topsoil.
- Other communities find it difficult to come up with a good program for sidewalks.
- He does like the idea of a flat tax in order to complete all the sidewalks in the village but he's unsure of how it would be accepted.
- Destination places should have two sidewalks. (Nancy)
- It would be really nice to have them all done.
- We need more trees planted and they need to be done in the fall.
- It's hard for them to go around and water new trees because they don't have the time
- Stumps are removed by Farrell's. That was the cheapest bid on grinding.
- Trees are being removed by a couple other companies.
- The village helps them cut them down. They chip the branches as they come down.

Nancy-

- She doesn't see the possibility of getting all the sidewalks done without grants.
- In the next water bill mention hedges and trees need to be taken care of
- Simple sidewalk care would help.
- Must have stop signs visible.
- Walkability is important.
- Native trees are best.
- If an arborist came once or twice a year it would be helpful.

Jared -

- Has heard of a foam product that can be injected under the sidewalk to level any sidewalk that is a hazard.

Quinn -

- The village of Perry planted trees and used a lister bag to water them.
- What does it cost to take a tree down? Scott answered that the cost depends on the size of the trees. A big tree might cost \$900, stump is another \$150 or \$200. A smaller tree might be \$400.

Charlie -

- Would like to see the sidewalks be done in conjunction with the trees. Make an arc in the sidewalk around the tree to prevent future damage to the sidewalk.
- Designate where the tree will go before the sidewalks go in. So when the sidewalks are done, they can go around the trees. Then plant the trees in the fall.
- Albion planted 200 trees. They planted them accordingly so they don't overlap. Then built their sidewalks next to them.
- Do we know whether tree roots will interfere with a plastic water line? Scott says he is not completely sure but they will definitely interfere with the sewer lines.
- Louise Wadsworth has a brochure she provides to people about the appropriate kinds of trees to plant.
- Rochester spent a lot of money planting trees on a terrible street because they realized trees matter.
- Charlie did an informal survey of about sixty random residents about which street is the most attractive. The answer was Seward Street because of the trees. It made them feel comfortable and it looked like a neighborhood.

Quinn-

- There are thousands of communities around the country with Tree City designations and it is relatively easy to get. They work with the National Arbor Day Foundation to get the designation and have a plan that they accept. They have sidewalks and trees and put in the appropriate types of trees that won't disrupt the sidewalks.
- Perry contacted homeowners and gave them a choice of a tree then asked for them to help maintain them.
- Asked Scott how many trees were being cut down this year. Scott said approximately 30 trees will be cut down this year. Eighteen trees have been removed and 22 more to come down.

Karen -

- Talk to a nursery person to plant the appropriate trees.
- Rochester takes their trees seriously. They have to replace any that they remove.

Katie -

- Cornell Cooperative Extension or Cornell University may have someone who could survey the village and advise on the appropriate trees to plant in the village.
- Locust trees are one of the most invasive trees and we should not plant them again.

Kathy -

- How much do trees cost? Quinn said that if you purchased a tree at your local nursery they can be expensive. But if you are Tree City designation you can get them for little to now cost.

Miscellaneous

- Charlie asked if there was a sidewalk committee.
- Quinn said that there isn't an official one. He began one last year and Floyd Sick agreed to be on it. The mayor put a stop to it.
- Quinn would like to put together a group of individuals including, walkers, shop owners, homeowners, and any other with a vested interest.
- The group should talk to others who have received grants.

- Charlie reported that there was an issue with a sidewalk during Fairy Fest. Sidewalks were a tripping hazard and the bricks should be replaced with stamped concrete.
- Sue reported that in 1994 when they bought their business they owned the sidewalk, But when the Main Street project went through it was decided that the village owned the sidewalk but the shop owners would take care of it.
- Quinn said that by law, the building owner is responsible for the sidewalk but that law was written before the sidewalks were expanded so does that mean only the original 4" block or all the way to the road. Not sure about that answer.
- Quinn said that the fairy dust from the fairy fest was blown into the street and goes down to the next business as well as going right into the local watershed.
- Cigarette butts are an issue too.
- Sue said that some of the fairy dust was biodegradable.
- Kathy said that the group that does the planters does a great job. But there were a lot of cigarette butts and the flowers were stomped on in front of the VFW.
- Butt cans are available for smokers, they just have to use them.
- Bags are available for dog waste.
- Signs are in the planters for designated areas for dog waste.
- Kathy said that maybe we should have a contest for the cleanest store front.
- Charlie said that there should be a sidewalk committee sooner than later.
- Charlie asked if maybe the sidewalk list should be cut off until the 17 are finished and we have a plan for the future.
- Charlie would like to get started on the Village budget sooner than later.
- Everyone says they will do something when they are running, then get elected and find there isn't any money.
- Quinn said that the perception is that even if you come to the board with an issue, the board won't listen or do anything.
- Charlie was disappointed when the sidewalk committee was nixed.
- Village board must act.
- Can we pay for the 17 that are already scheduled? It's approximately \$40K expense,
- Quinn said that if everyone says they wanted to do their sidewalk, the village doesn't have the funds.
- Kathy said that we are going to get someone to write a grant for sidewalks. Perry and Arcade both got millions of dollars in grant money. That would help out with the sidewalks.
- Grants take a year to get.
- Charlie said that the committee would help the village figure out if we can do the sidewalks and the true calculations. It will give a realistic idea of what needs to be done.
- Kathy thinks that the committee is possible but the committee has to listen to what they have already done.
- Kathy would like to spend money to write grants if we are going to get millions of dollars to work with.
- Nancy said that the village must decide that. We don't have our committee together yet. It will take some time to get organized.
- Nancy said that we can suggest the village look for grants but we can't do it.
- Nancy said that we will put together a sidewalk committee. She asked Quinn to be chair but he declined, but will be a member and do research. Nancy asked him to get a group together and report at the next meeting.

Next Meeting -

- July 15, 2024, 6PM North Dansville Town Hall Auditorium,
- Topic will be E-bikes, scooters, and other motorized vehicles that are not cars or trucks.
- Please look over the information that Chief Griese gave us at the last meeting.
- Ask people their opinions and encourage them to come to the meeting.
- Housing may be the topic for the meeting in August.

A motion was made by Quinn Golden to adjourn, **2nd** by Karen Schleyer. All in favor 11 AYE, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTAIN, **motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:59pm

Next Meeting: July 15, 2024 in the auditorium of the North Dansville Town Hall.

NOT RE

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Infantino, Secretary Comprehensive Plan Work Group (CPWG)