

Town of New Lebanon  
Comprehensive Plan Update Committee  
Minutes – December 17, 2019

Present: Jesse Newton, Cynthia Creech, Jim Carroll, David Farren, Steven Muse, Winfried Fuchshofen; Deb Gordon, Sharon Powers, Tony Murad Jeff Hattat and Ted Salem

1. Committee Vacancy -- So far, no one has expressed interest. Committee members will continue to reach out to persons. High interest in parent of school aged child(ren).
2. Grant application – David and Winfried are working on this. Ted will work with David on budget; we will apply for the max for both the Greenway grant and the Berkshire Taconic grant.
3. Consultant Procurement – Given the amount budgeted for this item, It is necessary to release an RFP (request for proposals) and send to at least three qualified professionals. Ted will work on this.
4. Takeaways from Previous Public Participation – The committee listed out what members felt were the main themes from the 2005 Comprehensive Plan, Behan Hamlet Revitalization and the Library's Community Conversations Initiatives. The purpose is to define the values of the community against which plan goals and then strategies could be determined and prioritized. Accompanying these minutes (page 2) is a DRAFT summary of this discussion. At the committee's next meeting we will review and refine this summary and then discuss how to obtain public participation for the current plan update.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 6:30 PM at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Salem, Chair

**DRAFT – 12-29-2019**

**Takeaways from Previous Public Participation Surveys and Workshops**

(2005 Comprehensive Plan; Behan Hamlet Revitalization, Library Community Conversations)

Summarized from Comprehensive Re-write Committee Meeting – December 17, 2019

<b>Residents want New Lebanon to provide:</b>	<b>Essential features:</b>
<b>A rural character</b>	open spaces, active farms, scenic roadways and view sheds, clean air and water, low density housing and commercial structures;
<b>A physically attractive place to live and work</b>	well-maintained properties and structures; zoning rules enforced; design standards for structures/signs create positive “first impression” for travelers
<b>An enriched lifestyle</b>	community center (senior/youth/recreation center); recreational and social activities; historic and cultural resources and events; entertainment
<b>A cohesive, caring community</b>	trust, togetherness, tolerance for differing views/lifestyles; address varied housing, employment and social needs;
<b>A town center</b>	a place to gather, interact, stroll and shop; safe, pedestrian-friendly; attracts
<b>Ready access to the basics</b>	grocery store and (or with) pharmacy
<b>Sustainable economic development</b>	serves the needs of the town and its environs; provides job opportunities for town residents, helps to lower property taxes;
<b>A destination for tourists/visitors</b>	brings in “outside money;” creates jobs focus on recreational/natural resources benchmark event; board of tourism
<b>Efficient, cost-effective and responsive public institutions</b>	listen and respond to resident needs; enforce rules; effective schools