

Fishkill Avenue Concept Committee

Meeting Notes

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

6:30 -8:00 PM

1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon City Hall (City Courts)

1. Select Meeting Minute Notetaker

2. Approval of January 8, 2025 Minutes

3. Update on City Council Meetings:

- **6:35pm: Conversation on 1/27/25 & CC FA Public Comments on 2/3/25**

4. Preparation for March 9, 2025 Public Event at Industrial Arts

- 6:45pm: Discuss event advertising and outreach; review flyer and assignments for Distribution
- 7:00pm: Review presentation content and length
- 7:20pm: Discuss activities or prompts for 3-4 breakout tables:
 - i. Traffic**
 - Show Street Mix profiles with various amenities that could be added (bike lanes, sidewalks, landscaping and bioswales, on-street parking, medians/turn lanes, etc.) – what should be prioritized?
 - ii. Connections to future rail trails**
 - Show map with recommended access points – which is best?
 - Show images of various existing rail trail access points (parking, plazas, open space, etc.) – what do residents want?
 - iii. Connection to Matteawan Road via Fishkill Correctional Facility property**

**Camp
Beacon**

Show map with recommended routes – which is best?

- Show images of adjacent future developments that may inform the new connection – what do residents want?

iv. Zoning/Land Uses

- Print out schedule of uses – which uses do residents want, not want, indifferent? Commercial vs Affordable housing? Mixed Use developments?

5. Next Steps

- 7:55pm

NOTES:

- Attending:
 - In person: JC, Yvonne, Steve, Olga, Nick, Garrett
 -
- Minutes from previous meeting:
 - Approved at 6:35pm
- Discussion of City Council meeting and memo
- Discussion of preparation for March public feedback session
 - Flyer for event - Olga worked on this
 - Refreshments
 - Jay has offered to help out
 - Reach out to Trax as well
 - Flyers
 - Use storefronts / business bulletin boards, not on public property or poles
 - 60 flyers in total
 - Take ten each -
 - Thinking that it would be good to spread some now, spread some later
 - Olga:
 - Beahvie
 - Beacon Market
 - Howland Library
 - Nick:
 -
 - Spread the word with local media with a local media alert - Highlands Courant; Free Press
 - Papers - Community Calendar

- Send both to Ben Swanson and use City templates for distribution and use with public
 - Re-work Flyer to move date and time to top of flyer
 - Add the City Logo on the Flyer
 - Ask Ben for funding for refreshments
- We can revisit the layout and space planning for the event
- Updates from the Mayor
 - Split the memo into two issues
 - First segment of issues were zoning related
 - Second segment of issues were referred to various entities - one to Traffic and Safety Committee; two to Building Department
 - Visited Cafe Spice
 - State of the art and significant investment into the facility - make sure to keep thinking about multiple uses / industrial
 - Visited Chemprene
 - Must speak with a member of staff at corporate HQ in Illinois
 - Consider whether there are any alternatives for proposed route - for example their main parking lot for employees is up State Street
 - City spoke with Chemprene several years ago about the development of the Highway Garage - the conversations didn't proceed after the Highway Garage location was shifted
 -
 - Downstate Prison
 - North side of I84 - have begun discussing with City; City encouraged for the proposal to be more urban and to connect with Camp Beacon / Matewan road, rather than more suburban.
 - Make sure to take a look at the road connectivity with this in mind
 - Multiple connections could be in play as part of underpass from I84

- Multiple
 - Access to Mattewan and subsequent developments along Delevan that have been approved - including
- Review Presentation and content
 - Thinking the presentation would run 45min?
 - Review the City Council presentation from November for what can be re-used?
 - Logistically to have everyone participate and share responsibilities for presenting - all present indicated at least tentatively being able to attend (Olga, Yvonne, Steve, JC, Jay, Garrett, Nick)
 - How do we want to break up the presentation?
 - Steve's concern: thinking about information that is most accessible and understandable for the general public
 - Steve and Olga have volunteered to put the slide show together as a first draft -
 - By when - 02/14
 - Nick plain-language explainers on zoning / land use / planning
 - By when - 02/16
 - Large-scale single print of corridor
 - By when -
 -
 - Agreement to start at 2:15
 - Presentation content
 - General -
 - Goals, Mayor's Memo, Observations -
 - Set the context and scope of geography
 - Ron's to City Line (South to North)
 - Mattewan to Creek (West to East)
 - Formal Recommendations to City Council initially
 - In process to set up long-term recommendations, we're now doing outreach to

- get public feedback and input
 - Start identifying the stations / concept areas
 - Facilitation / need note-taker at each table
 - Thinking about sticky notes and thoughts
- Breakout stations
 - How are we structuring the discussions? Especially to set the expectation and baseline of what we've evaluated and what is on the table / what is
- Connections to future rail trails
 - Committee doesn't feel this should be the sole focus of an entire station
- Road Design (Pedestrian and Safety)
 - "Complete Streets"
 - Take the street sections diagrams that JC created and use 1-2 as symbolic of the conditions and the vision
 - Show Street Mix profiles with various amenities that could be added
 - (bike lanes, sidewalks, landscaping and bioswales, on-street parking, medians/turn lanes, etc.) – what should be prioritized?
- Connection to Matteawan Road via Fishkill Correctional Facility property Camp
 - Show map with recommended routes – which is best?
 - • Show images of adjacent future developments that may inform the new connection – what do residents want?
- Zoning
 -
- Land Uses
 - Print out schedule of uses – which uses do residents want, not want, indifferent? Commercial vs Affordable housing? Mixed Use
 - Developments?

- What's the goal for the event?
 - Not necessarily to get new ideas
 - To get public feedback on proposals
 - Need to