

Town of Corning
Master Plan Update Committee Meeting
July 13, 2011

Attendance:

Elijah Baity
Mike Donnelly
John MacMahon
Chelsea Robertson
Danielle Salley
Kenneth Uhl
Doug Wicks

Absent:

Kim Feehan
Marianna Redner
Dean Stuart

1. Approval of June Minutes – The June 8, 2011 minutes were approved on a motion by Mike Donnelly, seconded by Danielle Salley and carried.
2. STC report of progress

Overview of Hickling Station – there was a question last month as to what was going on at the Hickling Station. Chelsea will send a link to the committee because there is an entire DEC bulletin and one page is devoted to the clean up of the Hickling Station. There is no lead agency on the Hickling Station. Danielle states that the assessment has been reduced way down so there is no money coming in from that, it is not a superfund site. The buildings have been completely gutted, but the Hickling owners did admit that at one time they were burning toxic materials of tires and furniture and basically anything that they could find.

The Hickling Station is in an industrial zone, there are two industrial zones in the Town of Corning one is where the Hickling Station is located, the second industrial zone is on Route 414 where the old railroad lies.

There was a discussion about where the industrial zones are located, is that enough industrial zones, are they sufficient. Chelsea noted that this will be exploring this later in the process, but that unless there is some great need for industrial type businesses, we can prove that in the Master Plan Study, it doesn't really make sense to expand any of the Town of Corning industrial zones.

The group looked at the current zoning maps and Chelsea noted that she will make a map for the next meeting that shows where the zoning is, the parcels lie and the floodplains. A lot of the industrial zones are in the floodplains. Some of this does not make sense, so we will look at this further.

3. Final Review of Focus groups / Attendees – The group looked over the list that Chelsea brought of the focus group attendees.

Committee / Town / Government – This meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 7 at 5:30 p.m. at the Town of Corning Town Hall. The discussion came up about meeting times. The Master Plan Committee meetings have usually been held on the second Wednesday of each month, which would be September 14. The meetings have been held at 7:00 p.m., but the committee agreed that it would be better to meet earlier, so that **time has been moved to 6:00 p.m.**

September 7 will be the first focus group meeting for the Master Plan Committee / Town / Government. At this meeting it will be the first run through as to how these questions are going to work and how this focus group is going to work. We will get as much information out of it as possible and then have the normal meeting on September 14 to discuss how it goes and then tweak any of our questions for the following focus groups. The remainder of the focus groups will happen after the regular Master Plan committee meeting on September 14.

Town / Village Infrastructure – the group looked at this list and feels that it is complete. The Verizon contact information is missing, but it was stated that Kim Feehan has that information.

Business / Employers / Economic Development – the group reviewed this and suggested adding the following: Gatehouse Motel; one car dealer (Craig's or Miller or one that is off from Goff Road or Gordon Road); Dandy Mini Mart, East Corning; and one church. There are several churches in the area (a couple in East Corning; those on Bailey Creek or Gibson area; Friends of the Cross on Goff Road). Chelsea will add them to the list, get their contact information and make sure that they are invited to a focus group meeting.

Major Landowners / developers / realtors – the group looked at this focus group list and suggested adding the Oakfield Neighborhood Association, Heather Hansen. The group would like to add all the Neighborhood Associations, but the only one active and interested would be the Oakfield one.

With these few additions, the group feels that they can move forward with the focus group attendees.

4. Final Review of Focus group questions

The Master Plan Committee went through the questions and felt that they were complete. There was a discussion on how these should be mailed out (letter or post card.) Sending a post card would save money. Mike Donnelly felt that it is important enough to have the letter with the questions on the back so that they can be filled out like a survey form and return it. The committee agreed that it would be better to be mailed out as a letter. Chelsea had a sample letter and the group reviewed it and suggested that it be a form letter. The same letter would go to everyone in the town explaining the process. There will be focus groups being held that residents are invited to watch, but cannot participate in. There will be two specific focus groups for the residents only to place their opinions. Chelsea agreed

to rewrite the letter and send to the committee for approval in the next week. The plan is to get the letters in the mail early August giving everyone a month to prepare.

5. Scheduling of Focus Groups

- a) Committee/Town/Government – September 7, 2011 at Town Hall at 6:00 p.m.
- b) Nighttime Residents – September 21, 2011 at Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.
- c) Daytime Residents – has not been scheduled but it will be held at Town Hall.
- d) Town / Village Infrastructure – will schedule this focus group meeting at the availability of Ken Fields, Town of Corning Water Department. It is felt that since he is the head of water he should be at the infrastructure meeting representing the Town of Corning. Ken is on vacation for the next week, Chelsea will contact him and get those dates.
- e) Business / Employers – the committee agreed that this focus group would be best served in the morning to be held at Town Hall.
- f) Major Landowners – Chelsea will get dates for that meeting within the next couple of weeks.

6. Next meeting is scheduled for August 10th. The committee agreed to cancel that meeting, will continue to communicate through email. The next meeting September 14, at 6:00 p.m.

All letters for the focus group invites will go out in early August. The next Master Plan Committee meeting will be at the focus group meeting will be on September 7.

Respectfully submitted,
Chelsea Robertson