

Frank Mendelson, acting as Chair in Jim Galvin's absence, opened the meeting at 7:05 pm. In attendance were members: John Fishman, Phil Trowbridge and Nick Tipple. Also in attendance were Town of Ghent Attorney Ted Guterman of Guterman, Shallo & Alford LLC and consultant Nan Stolzenburg of Community Planning & Environmental Associates.

Absent were members: Chair Jim Galvin, Jonathan Walters, Al Wassenhove, Gil Raab, Janice Fingar, Jim Beal, Pete Nelson, Larry VanBrunt, Aaron Groom and Kyle Wilber.

Mr. Tipple read aloud a letter relating to timber harvesting and logging, and the need for a working landscape, that he had sent to Smithsonian.

Due to the relatively low turnout, it was decided to discuss the framing of a couple issues, rather than a full review of the previously distributed draft. Mr. Fishman shared his comments regarding procedural and format issues.

#### **ORGANIZATION OF THE DOCUMENT**

It was agreed to separate the Plan into two (2) sections – the actual report and support documentation. It was agreed to list the specific goals in the 'contents' sheet. Additionally, it was agreed to place the Vision Statement in front of the report. Members spoke about the development of an 'executive summary' and the need to provide the Town Board with tools to implement the recommendations.

After a general discussion, it was agreed that items 4 and 5 of Goal 5 should be moved to Goal 11 and placed after existing item 4 (presently located on page 34).

#### **MEETING WITH GHENT TOWN COUNCIL**

Committee members determined that members should schedule an informal meeting with Town of Ghent Council members to provide an overview of the Committee's draft and the intent of the Plan.

Given this evening's low attendance and time constraints of the holidays, it was determined to defer further actions until the February 3, 2009 meeting.

Once information is available, Acting Chair Mendelson will prepare a press release that describes the Committee's progress, and the scheduling of public hearings.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.