

Chairman Galvin brought the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. In attendance were members Larry VanBrunt, Pete Nelson, Aaron Groom, John Fishman, Jim Beal, Frank Mendelson, Gil Raab, Nick Tipple, Al Wassenhove and Phil Trowbridge. Members Jonathan Walters, Janice Fingar, and Kyle Wilber were absent. Also in attendance were Town Attorney Ted Guterman and Nan Stolzenburg of Community Planning & Environmental Associates.

Public Input

There were no members of the Public in attendance.

Minutes

Mr. Fishman made a motion to approve the Minutes of the 05 March (as corrected), the 08 January and the 05 February 2008 meetings. The motion was seconded by Mr. Beal and unanimously approved. Mr. Wassenhove abstained.

Review Draft Vision Statement and Goals Statement (v3)

Ms Stolzenburg noted that the draft reflects changes made to date. Mr. Mendelson offered that he and Mr. Walters will prepare a version for members to consider at next month's meeting. It was agreed to delay review until such time.

Review Draft Strategies dd March 2008

Goal 7

Strategies & Actions

10. first line to read 'Review existing zoning code to encourage existing business districts along State Route 9-H as commercial clusters or 'nodes' and prevent expansion of these districts that result in strip-style development along the entire length of this important highway.'
22. Planned Commercial Industrial Overlay District, commonly referred to as 'PCID' – Town of Ghent Code 190.11
Nan to review
Town of Ghent Board and Ghent Planning Board to co-ordinate
17. 'communicate with adjoining municipalities....'
members agreed to return this previously deleted item, though without specific reference to specific towns
6. generic impact statement
in response to an inquiry from Ms Stolzenburg, members agreed that the item should remain deleted
16. the term 'small, low-impact non-farm businesses (located) on farm properties' needs to be defined
19. change to read 'Establish fees and policies.... '
define 'required improvements' and 'infrastructure'

Goal 4

Strategies & Actions

1. remove the word 'all'
6. annual town meeting
 - it was questioned whether the suggested presentation of the Town's 'annual work plan' could be incorporated into Ghent Community Day
7. develop Hamlet of Ghent as the town center
 - members agreed that this should be re-visited at next month's meeting
8. 'Promote and advocate healthy lifestyles....'
 - the Committee agreed that this item should be removed
9. Youth and Teen Development Plan
 - remove 'Ferguson' reference
 - refer to the town's existing West Ghent Community Center
10. include in item 1.

Goal 5

Strategies & Actions

1. 'Mitigate and plan for increased traffic volumes in the future.'
 - a traffic access management
 - b official map
 - it was agreed that the first sentence should read 'Consider development of an 'official map'.'
 - c members agreed
 - it was noted that strategy & action 16 is very similar
2. rural and scenic character
 - reword first sentence to 'Consider deeper front setbacks....'
 - incorporate items 3 and 4 into strategy & action 2
 - notify Town Engineer Ray Jurkowski about addressing 'rural character' when developing roadway requirements

It was agreed that the Committee will continue with the review of Goal 5, strategy & action 5 at next month's meeting. Mr. Tipple offered to review transportation in preparation for discussion of Goal 6 'Provide for new modes of transportation including public and pedestrian opportunities.' at the May meeting.

Chairman Galvin asked members to consider increasing the number of meetings per month, while the Committee reviews the various goals, strategies and actions.

Next Meeting

The Committee will next meet on Tuesday, 06 May, 2008.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.