



WARRENSBURG COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Meeting 1 Summary

Project Number: 2221521

Location: Zoom

Date: June 22, 2022

Time: 2:00PM

	Name	Organization/Role	Email
Attendees:	Patti Corlew	Warrensburg Planning & Zoning Administrator	patti.corlew@townofwarrensburg.net
	Jim Hull	Warrensburg Code Enforcement Officer	jim.hull@townofwarrensburg.net
	Joyce Reed	Warrensburg Collection Clerk	joyce.reed@townofwarrensburg.net
	John Alexander	Warrensburg Deputy Supervisor	fundirectors@yahoo.com
	Gary Cooper	Town Resident	coopga@gmail.com
	Laura Moore	Warrensburg Museum of Local History	Moorela2012@yahoo.com
	Sharon Sutphin	Warrensburg Planning Board Chairperson	nysutphin1@aol.com
	Teresa Whalen	Warrensburg Beautification Chair	taawhalen@yahoo.com
	Norabelle Greenberger	LaBella Associates	ngreenberger@labellapc.com
	Chris Round	LaBella Associates	cround@labellapc.com

Meeting Scope: Review scope and schedule; SWOT analysis

Meeting Summary:

- Committee members introduced themselves and provided information on their history in Warrensburg and interest in participating on the Committee.



- LaBella reviewed the project scope of work and preliminary schedule. Committee members requested that LaBella provide a copy of their proposal to the Committee.
- LaBella discussed preliminary ideas on the public engagement approach, including a visioning event in the fall, online engagement, a survey, and opportunities to conduct public engagement at an existing Town event. A summary of the Committee feedback on the public engagement approach is provided below, which will be incorporated into a public engagement plan.
 - Public workshops were held previously at the school and can also be at the fire house community center.
 - Prefer to post information on the recently updated Town website instead of creating a new Comprehensive Plan website.
 - Want to ensure that survey mechanism limits the number of times any single resident can respond. LaBella indicated that IP addresses are collected as a means of eliminating multiple repeat responses.
 - Interest in having 15-20-minute updates at Town Board meetings rather than daytime meetings.
 - Interest in interviewing stakeholders and wanting to ensure the public is involved in the process.
 - Opportunities to hold visioning event at the farmers market apple festival in mid-September.
 - Smoke Eaters Jamboree event on July 30 is too early for visioning event, but could be an opportunity to inform the public that the Comprehensive Plan process is starting.
- Committee discussed how the work of the previous Comprehensive Plan would be incorporated into the current planning process. LaBella suggested providing a table with the previous plan recommendations for the Committee and other stakeholders (e.g., Planning Board) to indicate their status and relevance. *Note: This exercise will occur prior to the "recommendation development" stage.*
- Committee spent the remainder of the meeting discussing Warrensburg's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, which were noted on a virtual "white board" during the meeting. These pages are attached to this summary document.

ITEM	ACTION ITEM	OWNER
1	Send Committee a copy of LaBella proposal	LaBella



ITEM	ACTION ITEM	OWNER
2	Post project update/information on Town website & social media	Labella/Town
3	Draft community profile	LaBella
4	Draft public engagement plan	LaBella
5	Public engagement items for July Jamboree	LaBella/Committee
6	Schedule August Committee meeting	LaBella/Committee

The preceding minutes represent the author's understanding of the matters discussed and decisions reached. If there are any corrections, clarifications, or additions to be made to these minutes, please contact the sender at ngreenberger@labellapc.com within five business days of issuance.

Respectfully submitted,
LABELLA ASSOCIATES, D.P.C.

Norabelle Greenberger, AICP

Cc: All Attendees

SWOT ANALYSIS

WHAT MAKES WARRENSBURG UNIQUE?

Workforce - people here that love to do what they do
Need more anchor stores - things for longevity, eateries
Main Street - hamlet increasing with APA to offer more real estate for businesses
Want Main St to be prosperous
Gateway to the ADKs - how to get people to stop & shop in stores
Want better parking (parking designated to Health Center)
Vacation rentals - need to work with the community - create better place/community involvement with the rentals
Diversify retail/restaurant offerings to attract new generations/visitors
What has changed since last Comp Plan - same priorities? Lots of beautification has already happened
What differently can be done?
Aspects of past plan that don't correlate with current zoning
Not enough housing
Why do people come here to begin with? Lots come for food + natural resources
Wealth of local resources -> how to improve access
School high ranking - sense of pride
High school taxes
Airbnbs/vacation rentals = why people come. How to transfer those \$ to improve other community amenities & so stay longer/in other seasons
Used to be a drive through town -> need to look forward to where will be in 10/20 years
School population declining
Need to grow and expand our business
How can we keep our residents & share wealth with airbnbs
Entertainment

Destination now because of short term rentals
Need to improve housing - poor rental housing stock
Main Street = impression of the Town
Mobile homes put onto properties - need to pass sunset law
Highway access
Infrastructure - existing + expansions = a plus; ability to have more hookups
Hamlet expansion N up Main - APA reviewing - redesigning based on APA review
Connecting homes to the sewer
Great Town services - snow shoveling, Parks & Recc, Hwy Dept
Convenient location (1 Hr to Albany airport), but quaint & surrounded by natural res.
All the services - healthcare, cleaners, etc. -> Need for tourism bent
Distinct downtown/well defined (vs. sprawl)
Historic buildings - asset (district)

SWOT ANALYSIS

IN WHAT WAYS DOES WARRENSBURG NEED TO IMPROVE?

NYSDO & Hwy Department working together on Main Street - work well together

Narrow Main Street

Parking

Curb appeal - making it easy to stop

County DPW - asset taking care of streets/sidewalks

County & Town work well together, no concerns about truck traffic - far enough from downtown

National Grid - opportunity to change the use on the site - housing site?

Difficulties for trucks fitting in road

Moratorium/historic district doesn't match up/include many historic buildings - non-contiguous

Lack of knowledge about the historic district - largest historic district in the ADK park (> 220 properties)

Tax incentives available to property owners

Misinformation on historic district