

Minutes
Tusten Comprehensive Plan Committee
May 27, 2020

The meeting opened at 6:10 p.m. on the Zoom platform. Attending were Ken Baim, Jim Crowley, Mike Farrell, Jane Luchsinger, Ben Johnson, Art Hawker, Elaine Giguere, Crystal Weston and consultant Peter Manning.

As decided at the May 11 meeting, the group continued to review the 2007 Comprehensive Plan to determine the relevance of 2007 action plan items and whether they had been addressed.

Among the most discussed items were:

- Riverwalk: it was determined that developing a walkway on the river side of the Main Street buildings would ultimately be decided on by the property owners. Art Hawker pointed out firefighting issues related to firetruck access to the backs of those buildings. Luchsinger suggested that the building owners and fire department meet. While a walkway might eventually be developed, the property owners would lead the project, not the town.
- Burn barrels and wood fueled outdoor boilers: Since 2007, burn barrels in the hamlet have been banned, however, there continues to be issues with barrels and outdoor boilers in other areas of the township.
- Vacant Buildings: Ben Johnson said he was in discussion with the town lawyer as to whether, or under what circumstances, a fine or tax could be imposed on vacant properties.
- Broadband: Notably of high priority in 2007 and again in 2020.
- After the discussion of potential firefighting issues and burn barrels, Jim Crowley commented that many people don't know the roles of Tusten's various boards and officers. Crystal Weston suggested that a directory be developed. Consensus was that the directory could be on the town's website.

Peter Manning asked whether Tusten had an Open Space Plan or a natural resources inventory and the Town's goals related to open space. Ben Johnson said he would send available documents

Also discussed were the energy efficiency goals and all agreed that there has been great progress in that regard due to an active energy committee.

Jane Luchsinger moved for adjournment at 8:30 pm.

The next meeting is on June 8 at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Giguere