

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2025
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The Town of Orange Planning Commission held a work session meeting at 6:00 p.m., in the Town of Orange Community Meeting Room. Planning Commission members present were: Chairman Benjamin Sherman, Vice-Chair Page Sullenberger, Commissioners Rita Carroll, and Jeffrey Crane. Staff members present were Director of Community Development Deborah Sturm, ICMA-CM, AICP and Deputy Town Clerk Kimberly Strawser, CZA, CMC. Mayor J. Harrison Cluff was absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sherman called the meeting to order. The Deputy Town Clerk called roll and noted that there was a quorum present.

CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2025

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Sullenberger, seconded by Commissioner Crane, to approve the meeting minutes of April 14, 2025, as presented. On vote, Chairman Sherman – aye, Vice-Chair Sullenberger – aye, Commissioner Carroll – aye, and Commissioner Crane – aye. Motion carried.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON THE MAIN STREET CONCEPT PLAN

Mr. Bill Mechnick from Kimley Horn appeared before the Commission to review and answer questions regarding the Main Street Concept Plan. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission for the Director of Community Development to forward the Main Street Concept Plan to the Town Manager for Town Council review and comments.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Director of Community Development stated that staff would compile various demographic aspects for the town and develop a brief analysis of trends to help inform the development and review of the comprehensive plan goals and objectives. The Director of Community Development stated that the estimated completion of this information would be ready for review at the August 11th work session.

The Director of Community Development reported that staff would prepare a community survey to be used to solicit citizen input on the plan in conjunction with community meetings to be held in the late summer/early fall. The Director of Community Development provided information from the Town of Gordonsville and Warren County's community survey as examples. The Director of Community Development stated that staff had been in touch with the Town's website manager and we have the ability to create an online survey on the Town's website.

The Director of Community Development stated that using the other community's surveys as a guide for general format and staff suggested that questions be divided into two sections – general respondent demographic information and community perceptions and visions categorized by

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plan themes. The Director of Community Development estimated the completion by June 30th and ready for review at the July 14th work session.

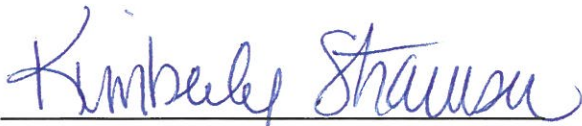
The Director of Community Development stated that community meetings would be important to seek citizen input. The Director of Community Development stated further that the last public meeting held last September was a great start and follow-up meetings in other areas of town would hopefully encourage more citizen participation. The Director of Community Development suggested that community meetings be held in the late summer/early fall in conjunction with the release of the citizen survey.

After discussion it was the consensus of the Commission to send out a community survey that is targeted to the Themes of the plan and to hold community meetings in late summer/early fall.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 6 p.m.

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.



Kimberly Strawser, CZA, CMC
Deputy Town Clerk



Chairman Benjamin Sherman