



Comprehensive Plan Committee

Minutes 9/18/19

Attendance: Supervisor Albrigo, Councilors Weber, Kelley, LaFex, Mayor Baichi, Trustees Fougner, Cregg, Code Enforcer Dave Balcer, Planning Board Chair Bob Fanelli

Guest: Maryanne Dowling, Greater Camillus Chamber of Commerce

We had a presentation from Maryanne Dowling, 1st VP of the Greater Camillus Chamber of Commerce. With over 200 small business members, the chamber has been in existence for 25 years. They sponsor a variety of events including a Business Expo 2019 featuring chamber members. Social events, networking opportunities and communication through www.camilluschamber.com, directories and newsletters help connect businesses. They host director, leads and coffee talk meetings during the month. Ribbon cuttings and multi chamber (for example, Baldwinsville, Manlius and CenterState CEO) events are open to all. Membership is \$80 for two representatives from a business or \$30 as a social member.

Mayor Baichi outlined the benefits of membership in CenterState CEO, which the village has belonged to since late winter. The Mayor uses the benefits of Solvay Electric to connect with large businesses. He has participated in meetings, follows leads and communicates through phone call contacts. The Mayor is hoping to connect with businesses to develop the brownfields, main street and other development in the village. CEO connects him with investors, vendors and provides networking. The relationship is still in the initial stages. The cost is \$1750 per year.

The committee weighed the positives of both organizations, one of which highlights small businesses and the other is larger scale. The committee sees value in both. Councilor Kelley offered to join the Greater Camillus Chamber of Commerce to learn about how they work. He will ask another committee member to join him.

Supervisor Albrigo will contact CenterState CEO to come to our next meeting to further discuss their program.

We discussed the search for municipal grant writers. We have one firm's proposal while a second firm is working on initial drafts for us. We will interview the firms soon. Trustee Fougner suggested a third person to offer a proposal as well. He will connect with that person. Draft proposals include a timeline of grants, expenses for grants and including an initial priority of something visual for the three neighborhoods such as signs etc.

Councilor Kelley brought up the question of how do we incorporate a general revamping of the codes and zoning in conjunction with the Comprehensive Plan. Discussion generated several comments such as the massiveness of this task, the large expense, the lengthy timeline. The suggestion was made for us to consult with other towns and/or legal to see how to manage this massive task.

Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for December.