

# **NY Forward – Capital Region - Kinderhook**

Subject MEETING SUMMARY Date Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Public Workshop #1

Place Van Buren Hall, 6 Chatham St Time 6:00-8:00pm

In Attendance Local Planning Committee

Mike Abrams, Mayor, Co-Chair Matthew Nelson, Co-Chair

Bill Laraway Ann Birckmayer Gert Doriot

Kenneth Neilson (absent)
Michael Tucker (absent)
Kevin Monahan (absent)
Julia Joseph (absent)
Brad Lohrenz (absent)
Tracey Pratt (absent)
Steven Phillips (absent)
Darren Waterson (absent)

**State Team** 

Matthew Smith, NY DOS Michael Yevoli, NY ESD

**Consultant Team** 

Ian Nicholson, Buro Happold Daniel D'Oca, Interboro Joe Giambri, Interboro Natalie Boverman, Interboro **Public** 

Susan Patterson Bill Mancini Theo Fels Matt Paulett Daniel Bopp Wendy Bopp

[and others that did not sign-in]

#### **Meeting Summary:**

Please see "KH\_Public Workshop 1\_Slides\_record" for the presentation shared during the meeting, which parallels the discussion summarized below.

Please see "KH\_Public Workshop 1\_Visual Summary" for a synopsis and analysis of the feedback provided during the interactive engagement portion.

### **Opening Remarks**

Mayor Abrams (LPC) delivers brief opening remarks.



## Overview of NYF Program

lan (BH) provides an overview of the NYF program and process, including introductions from the state and consultant team present. [See slides.]

#### NYF in Kinderhook

Ian (BH) provides an overview of the boundary and preliminary vision and goals that have been put forward for Kinderhook NYF, as well as an overview of some key demographic information, needs, challenges, and opportunities. [See slides.]

# Interactive engagement session

Dan (Interboro) provides instructions for everybody on the format for the evening and how to discuss and record feedback which will be reported back to the LPC.

Everybody is seated across 3 identical tables that each include a large map, comments cards, instructions, and photos as well as printed copies of the vision and goals. About 45 minutes are spent in open discussion amongst the 3 tables, followed a readout of topics and ideas discussed from each table:

#### • Table 1

- Vision and goals seem to be missing sustainability
- o 2<sup>nd</sup> EV charging station needed
- Must address needs/challenges of growing Hispanic community
- o Daycare center needed no childcare!
- Need to bury the power lines more practical, better historic feel, supports updated lighting plans
- Want to get trucks out of the village, send to 9H
- Maybe can calm truck traffic with reduced speed limits, speed bumps so they choose to go another way?
- o Too much closed/vacant retail space
- o Is it fair for money to go to private owners?
- o Park-to-downtown connectivity nature path thru House of History land?
- Different destinations have different opening hours no coordination disparate web presence
   hard for visitors to play "a day in Kinderhook"
- Village web presence needs updating
- o 1 of the baseball fields at Rothermal is never used
- African Cemetery should be nicer and more dignified
- o Food pop-up at Rothermal?
- o Need reason to come to Village on weekdays
- o Problem with 2<sup>nd</sup> homeowners housing overpriced, unattainable
- o Table agrees that there's plenty of parking
- Van Buren as emergency cooling shelter?

# • Table 2

- Need "gateway" type entrances, traffic calming
- Should cut-off traffic on Hudson St slip lane (but keep parking?)
- o Need affordable housing. Maybe at the old pharmacy?
- Lighting is a big issue safety at night, and energy efficiency
- o The land behind House of History is too big and underutilized
- Need daycare
- o Enhance recreation activity pickleball??



- o To reinvigorate the Village, need to create jobs
- Table 3
  - o Need to get power lines underground
  - Should add walkway behind House of History
  - o Possibility for more trail amenities?
  - o Skate park? Need something for teens...
  - o All abilities playground? Splash pad?
- General discussion
  - o Branding/marketing project needed including Spanish language communications
  - o Bandstand restoration plus bathroom
    - Would be even better with Village Green reconfiguration: space for people instead of cars, at the very heart of the Village.
  - Senior center needed
  - Good precedents for what Kinderhook wants to be: Chatham (consensus), Hudson (disputed), Rhinebeck (consensus)
  - o Economic development follows placemaking (not the other way around).

**END OF SUMMARY**