

City of Norwich
Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
Norwich City Court

May 20, 2013
7:00 PM

Present: R. Mirabito, D. DeForest, K. Campbell, H. Graves

Absent: M. Stewart, J. Miller, S. Prentice, E. Bunce

Staff: T. Dreyer, J. Lawrence, A. Donnison

I. Call to Order:

Chairman R. Mirabito called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. On a motion by D. DeForest, the minutes of the April 15, 2013 meeting seconded by H. Graves were approved.

II. Comprehensive Plan Update:

Todd Dreyer stated that tonight's section for review is History and Overview as well as the updated demographics section as requested since when this section was reviewed several months ago the entire 2010 census data was not available. Originally the Natural Resources section was slated to be reviewed but upon getting ready to prep that section T. Dreyer discovered that it was already done last fall and he apologized for the confusion. T. Dreyer also noted that in 2014 the City of Norwich will celebrate its centennial. The History section of comprehensive plan has no changes – since the history has not changed, however there are a few new items added. One of the new items references the new rental registration and inspection program designed to improve the housing stock. So far this program has been successful for enabling the city to reach a property owner or their local designated contact for concerns regarding the property.

Discussion regarding the population change and other items on the demographics section that have been updated from the 2010 census and what that may mean to the future of Norwich. Such as the trend of income levels compared to the rest of Chenango County as well as the education levels. H. Graves noted that households are growing older and some may be moving to the Town of Norwich or other areas within the county. J. Lawrence agreed that this may be likely because he knows from his own experience that for seniors on Medicare there are only 2 facilities in the city that accepts it, Valley View and Gilmour so that many seniors have to leave the area due to housing stock for seniors not accepting Medicare. K. Campbell inquired if snowbirds are included in the census data. T. Dreyer stated the census asks the question for residency of where you are on April 1st of that year. T. Dreyer noted that students may also impact those numbers. R. Mirabito noted that NBT employs approximately 2,000 people company wide. T. Dreyer noted that the poverty rate may be higher in the city due to Norwich being the county seat. People who require additional assistance like to be close to services such as the Chenango County Office Building. K. Campbell inquired if there was any way to know how many are homeless in Chenango County. T. Dreyer stated that Judy Wingate-Wade of the

Norwich Housing Authority would have that information and also noted that juvenile homeless is not counted.

Discussion regarding the proper use of capital letter when referencing a city or state was discussed for the purpose of having it used consistently when typing the updated comprehensive plan

The next meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2013.

III Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by motion by D. DeForest at 6:42 pm seconded by H. Graves. Ayes all.