

HAMLETS

What should we do to enhance the Hamlet of Accord,
and
are there other hamlets that could be further developed?

GOAL #1 - Revitalize the Hamlet of Accord to be a thriving centralized community in harmony with its natural and historic character.

OBJECTIVE #1 - Create centralized commercial development

- Inventory existing structures and research best use
- Stimulate existing and new businesses
- Research surrounding property availability in hamlet for development
- Research infrastructure (Water, Sewer, roads, bridges, utilities)
- Define development district
- Seek funding opportunities

OBJECTIVE #2 - Create community and cultural facilities integrated and integrate with commercial development

- Inventory existing housing
- Define development district
- Explore development of senior and other forms of affordable housing
- Explore entertainment, recreational, and cultural activities
- Seek funding opportunities

OBJECTIVE #3 – Maintain harmony with hamlets natural and historical character

- Control new building
- ENFORCE existing codes
- Highlight the creek and its natural beauty
- Investigate environmental and recreational compatibility
- Inventory open space for parks

INFORMATION GATHERED FROM MEETING

Create a Centralized Commercial Development (20)

- Develop central area with stores for seniors and housing
- Pursue new business
- Develop library (2)
- Preserve rural beauty
- Restore existing buildings
- Apply for grants (Greenway community)
- Control advertising
- Develop rail trail, ski and bike trails (2)
- Pursue ideas to bring people into the hamlet
- Keep area walkable
- Develop bungalow parks
- Promote open air concerts
- Promote farm festivals

HAMLETS - continued

Businesses we'd like to see in the Hamlet of Accord

- Cafes and restaurants
- Speedway
- Thrift shop
- Cultural, museum and educational center (farm, history, gateway to Borsch belt)
- Pool
- Drug store
- Health co-op
- Library (2)
- Bakery
- Art & antiques
- Framers Market
- Bowling alley
- Bungalow park
- Rural tours (idea Monticello)
- Gambling related businesses if it comes to neighboring towns
- 5K – mountain bike races
- Ice rink (winter)
- Grocery store
- Farm and Garden supply
- Local crafts
- Hunting, fishing recreation store
- Climbing, hiking store
- Tutor for school children
- Senior housing

Research similar communities

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

What kinds of economic development do we want, where should it be located, and what should it look like?

What steps should we take to retain and attract economic development?

GOAL #1

- Complete re-evaluation of zoning codes
 - Complete inventory of land resources (i.e. open space, forests, etc...)
 - Lot size reevaluation to encourage open space
 - Provide “workers” housing

GOAL #2

- Achieve consistent and unbiased municipal codes and code enforcement
 - More enforcement hours
 - Better management of town board of code enforcement
 - Better oversight of Planning and Zoning Boards and code enforcement office

INFORMATION GATHERED FROM MEETING

Economic Development Summary

- Enforce existing property management standards – need for more people power and enforcement of law (16)
- Development Hamlet of Accord according to smart growth principals – (i.e. center of town, infill, radiating out of defined area) (8)
- Study of businesses that are: (3)
 - Missing from town
 - Encourage development of these services within the town
- Where?
 - Rt. 209 corridor – define specific areas of industrial park (2)
 - Define specific areas as “natural beauty” areas
- More substantial development limited to specific 209 sites (2)
- Light Industry Promotion (2)
 - Support development by residents and encourage local hiring and use of local talent
- Agricultural Promotion and Protection (2)
 - Niche farming
- What?
 - Develop infrastructure – Accord town & sewer (1)
 - Enforce existing property management standards and laws (1)
- Support Hamlet of Accord’s infrastructure (i.e. water, sewer necessity) (1)
- Define nature of town character influenced by zoning
- Where?
 - Hamlet of Accord
 - Rte 209 corridor
 - Other locations

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – continued

- Kinds?
 - Light Industry
 - Tourism
 - Agriculture
 - Small Businesses – support residents needs

Develop Hamlet of Accord according to “Smart Growth” (i.e. epicenter, walkability, town water and sewer.

- Small businesses in hamlets
- Economic Development – What kind?
 - Non-polluting – low environmental impact
 - Encourage small business
 - Tourism – bed and breakfasts
 - Use of scenic natural beauty –capitalize on each site
 - Discourage duplication of services that may be excessive
 - Possibility of creating alternate route around hamlets (where?)
 - Define nature of town character influenced by zoning
 - Study existing conditions and resource inventory
 - Follow state zoning guidelines at a minimum

Economic Development

- Telecommunication (cell phone, cable, TV, high speed) (4)
- Promote businesses that satisfy needs of residence (2)
- Town make available cable to all (1)
- Businesses on 209 should be limited to attractive structures and businesses
- Larger, less attractive businesses limited to specific zones
- Slogan needed – “The Longer you wait – the worse it will be.”
- Need for basic services close by (i.e. supermarket)
- Internet infrastructure for in-home businesses
- How other town handled problems in economic development

RURAL CHARACTER

How should the Town's rural character be preserved and enhanced?

GOALS

- Explore Purchase of Farm Development rights, Scenic & Conservation development rights
- Revisit zoning, regulations regarding types and size of development
- Equal and stricter enforcement of existing zoning and town laws and regulations
- Control new development
 - Design guidelines
 - Affordable housing – apartments – town houses
- Revisit the 1969 Master Plan and the later revision
- Hire full time zoning officer
- Hire town planner
- 209 Corridor committee (Hurley, Marbletown, Rochester, Wawarsing)
- Historic Preservation incentives
- Increase awareness of local produce and products - Buy Local!

INFORMATION GATHERED FROM MEETING

What is rural character?

- Restrict Big Box and strip development (14 votes)
- Restoration and creation of villages and hamlets (14 votes)
 - Business incentives
 - Smaller zoning sizes
 - Water and sewer a concern in Accord (community)
- Preservation of farmland and scenic views by purchase of development rights (9)
- Support Rondout Valley Growers Association - Farm stands – 209 Corridor (9 votes)
- Properties exempt from taxation use town services – need to explore this further (6 votes)
- Control growth by maintaining rural character (2 votes)
- Change the thinking of the consumer to support local farmers (2 votes)
- Positive reasons for maintaining open space and farms - tourism (1 vote)
- 209 Corridor controls and restrictions and uses (1 vote)
- Open space committee – open space inventory (1 vote)
- Cultural museum (1 vote)
- Town needs to address casino issue (1 vote)
- Increase minimum zoning (1 vote)
- Create a shopping area – industrial zone (1 vote)
- Cell tower placement and types of towers (1)
- Views of the ridge, valley, Catskills
- Hidden homesites
- Conservation easements
- Beware to not hurt current landholders rights and potential of sales
- Preservation of old houses
- Attract tourism dollars, tourists are day-trippers need to create tourist uses and reasons to come
- Affordable and senior housing with access to business
- Conservation subdivision – farmers deed rights of poor framing areas for development
- Roadways – dirt vs. paved – width of roads

CULTURE AND RECREATION

What cultural and recreational facilities do we need in the Town, or want to enhance, and how should we do this?

GOAL#1

- Preserve and protect open space for outdoor recreational purposes, for all residents
 - Determine and achieve best use of public/private lands for recreational purposes, such as snowmobiling, cross country skiing, soccer, hunting, fishing
 - Encourage partnerships between “sports” groups and public organizations
 - Publicize existing facilities (Wawarsing)
 - Extend and improve access to creek and rail trail

GOAL#

- Provide enrichment opportunities in fields of arts, music, crafts
 - Tapping resources that exist in town
 - Programs targeted to seniors and youth
 - Library
 - Encourage environment that attracts talent and resources from public and private entities
 - A-K chamber of commerce as resources
 - Day camp

INFORMATION GATHERED FROM MEETING

Big Question?

- How to prioritize assess feasibility and affordability (by whom?)
- Inventory –
 - Minn. State Park/Mohonk (3)
 - Rondout Creek/Fishing (3)
 - Arts community classes (1)
 - Rail Trail (1)
 - Youth commission – museum
 - Community center
 - Senior group center needed
 - Race track
 - Wildlife
 - Swimming pool
 - Little one’s library
 - Other hiking trails
 - Baseball field
 - Town park
 - School sports facilities
 - School cultural programs
 - Golf course

Enhance/Develop

- Knowledge of facilities
- Access to creek
- Need to know private/public rights and liabilities; ways to work with other municipalities (feasible & affordable) (8)
- Connecting rail trails (8)
- Arts, music and crafts camp (8)
 - Summer concerts
- Hunting and snowmobiling, facilities and groups (7)
- Seniors – vol/job opportunities trips, lunch program, safety net, emergency locator and support 911 plan (5)
- Transport to youth activities center – school or town bus (3)
- Maybe possible improve town park access to creek
- Open up events rehearsals for seniors with transportation and other
- Encourage local artists to offer training classes (need facility for “artists in residence)
- Park (behind res. Rec. transfer station (30 acres available)
- Develop area for snowmobiling and cross country skiing
- Wider use of rail trail (liability waiver)
- Does usage justify improvements – soccer league
- Continued support to little ones library
- Central day-care center
- Library (beyond child’s library)
- System for communicating events/facilities

IDEAS:

- Accord pool (1)
- Clearinghouse for vol. opp. (link with C of C)
- H.V. Pottery trail
- Library
- Farm day camp
- Use churches Synagogues for seniors
- Address liability issues

COMMUNICATION

How do we improve communication between the Town and its residents, between weekenders and locals, between the Town and the School, and amongst town committees and board?

PUBLIC ACCESS

GOAL

- Town officials more available

OBJECTIVE

- Town board expand open office hours

ACTION

- Town Hall open additional hours:
 - 12- 1 pm Monday – Friday
 - 9 -12 Saturdays

TOWN COMMUNICATION

GOAL

- To create reliable communication resources for town

OBJECTIVE

- Enhance TV access
- Introduce members
- Microphones – sound for town meetings
- Establish website – interactive
- Town newsletter

STRATEGY

- Gain town board approval

INFORMATION GATHERED FROM MEETING

#1 TOWN NEWSLETTER (15)

- To boxholders – 2x year
- In stores 2x a year
- Sections: town committees, school, other, libraries

#2 SINGAGE

- At bridge – N&S on 209
- Electronic – timely sponsors

#3 TOWN HALL (34)

- Expand hours: 12 – 1, open Saturday am, one day to 5:30

#4 ELECTRONIC

- Town crier (1)
- Website (3)
- Public access TV (2)

COMMUNICATION - continued

SUGGESTIONS:

- Coop. with C of C
- All viewpoints represented
- Website – interactive (10)
- Individual conversations door to door contacts
- Neighborhood meetings (3)
- Info on unknown local resources
- Suggestion box
- Portable microphone
- Town Crier
- Newspaper
- Phone calls
- Town meetings
- Street billboards
- Public Access TV
- Cable TV
- High speed internet
- Newspaper – Imagine Rochester
- Town Hall extended hours
- Electronic sign
- Sign Makeover and gateway clean up esthetics
- Publish meeting minutes and agendas
- Clearing house for volunteer opportunities, announcements of events
- Newsletter

ENVIRONMENT

What natural, scenic, and manmade features are important to preserve and enhance, and how should this be done?

GOAL

- Enhance and Preserve the beautiful environment and natural resources

OBJECTIVE #1 - Enforce the Codes

- Apply more resources toward code enforcement and enforcing all the codes
- Increase permit fees to cover enforcement
- Changing the requirement that the complainant be identified
- Educate public to codes
 - Facts on website
 - Insert info sheet on tax bills or other mailing
- Pass new code of ethics

OBJECTIVE #2 - Revisit and revise Comprehensive Plan

- Needs to be living document
- Establish a review process with date definite
- More practical, implementable goals
- Research other communities' revised MP
- Must include natural resources
 - Wetlands, slopes, mapping, groundwater, open space, inventory
- Revisit zoning and planning subdivision codes
- All personal needs should be bound to the master plan to referendum?

INFORMATION GATHERED FROM MEETING

- **ENFORCING THE CODES (23)**
- Natural Landscaping
 - Mountains, Streams, Deer, Cornfields
- Quiet – no noise vs. legal noise
 - 4-wheelers
 - gun shots in November vs. gunshots all year round
 - Big lights vs. lights too big (want to see stars, fears of dark)
- Pollution – need to retain clean resources
- Architecture
- Balance rights of people
- Environmental Control of left-over pollutants from industrial uses, also from construction burning barrels, pro & con junk and appliances on lawns free days at the land fill
- Preservation of farmlands, open space and wildlife vs. maintaining value for farmer (2)
- Recreational use of open space , snowmobiling and how to keep it safe, respect for the land,, hunting and fishing and how to keep it safe and respectful of people's property liability
- Moratorium on building – encouraging more Mom and Pop stores
- Landmark Preservation - should we have it?

ENVIRONMENT - continued

- Impressions of the town (11)
 - Revisit Master Plan and zoning (11)
 - Revisit sign ordinance
 - Enforcing the current codes
 - Environmental controlled growth for business
 - Access to swimming areas in Mohonk Preserve (2)
 - Gravel banks and lumbering natural resources as a money making operation vs. environmental protection and homeowners
 - Abandon mines, how to clean up abandoned dogs, cats, what to do with them
- Beautification (5)
 - Buffers of Business's
- Town Conservation Plan (2)
 - Preserve Rondout Creek Access
- Free access to state parks (2)
 - Real estate education of new residents
- Role of Environment Community (1)
- Trees
- Lights at Town Hall shield