

***DRAFT* Comprehensive Planning Committee Minutes 3/26/26**

Meeting starts: 6:30pm. Minutes taken by Stephanie Bassler, Town Board liaison

Members present: Carole Ann Mayone, Sam Dederick, Bob Dederick, Laura Diffenderfer, Susan Weeks, Katie Hamor, Lauren Ruberg

Also present: Stephanie Bassler, Town Board liaison
Elizabeth Reece
Dia Mansbach
Linda Krouse

Absent: Rich Azoff, CPC member

February 2026 meeting minutes were approved

Public Comment:

Elizabeth Reece, 67 Elm Street.

Ms. Reece asked the CPC to include in any upcoming considerations of rezoning, to include industrial zoning in addition to residential, in matters relating to BESS, data centers, and bitcoin.

Town Board Report (Ms Bassler)

Members of Beautiful Saugerties spoke at the March 18 Town Board meeting about the environmental impacts of development on the Winston Farm property, particularly in the upland area that has been identified as a critical recharge area for the aquifer.

The Town's BESS working group met for the second time on March 25. The group is currently reviewing the model zoning code provided by NYSERDA and developing draft zoning for the Town of Saugerties. Monthly meetings of this working group will continue.

Business

1. Ms. Dederick read a statement provided by Mr. Azoff, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Mr. Azoff has reviewed the Comprehensive Plan regarding BESS installations, and did not find a specific reference to BESS, just general statements about environmental sustainability.

Regarding the review of the “mission” of the CPC, Mr. Azoff seeks for that mission to be fully endorsed by the Town Board. He proposes that the CPC take on the work of monitoring progress in all of the Town’s operations, regulations and policies towards the Comprehensive Plans goals and objectives.

2. The CPC discussed the work accomplished in 2025, which consisted of reviews of Comprehensive Plan goals and assessment of status of each goal. It was agreed that the Town’s mapping of parks and trails needs attention; graphics, distribution, and print/digital distribution to be reviewed relative to Comp. Plan objectives and any recommended action items brought to the Town Board. It was agreed that the CPC will complete this review work in 2026.
3. The CPC worked collaboratively on an updated Mission Statement, arriving at the following as a final draft:

The Comprehensive Planning Committee promotes the full implementation of the goals and strategies of the Comprehensive Plan. This work will keep alive the Comprehensive Plan by bringing feedback and guidance to Town Boards, Committees and Departments.

Members of the CPC will vote on this draft Mission Statement at the April meeting. Ms. Bassler will discuss this draft Mission Statement with the Town Board and will provide feedback at the April CPC meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted: Stephanie Bassler