

Comprehensive Plan

Steering Committee – Meeting #2
Date: Wednesday, June 26th, 2024
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: Village Office

Meeting Notes

- I. Review Prior Meeting Notes** **MRB Group**
The steering committee received meeting notes as part of the agenda distribution. Members present confirmed that the notes were accurate, and Emma Falkenstein noted that the notes would be posted to the comprehensive plan website.
- II. Finalize Public Engagement Strategy** **MRB Group**
Emma overviewed the public engagement strategy with the steering committee. She noted the key elements including the community survey, public workshops, focus groups, Village Board presentations, and regular steering committee meetings. The steering committee engaged in discussion regarding the key elements, emphasizing the importance of a well-rounded public engagement strategy. Following discussion, the steering committee determined that the library would be the best location for Public Workshop #1. Emma noted she would reach out to inquire about potential dates. Emma encouraged the steering committee to continue reaching out to their networks to take the community survey.
- III. Review Economic Base Report** **MRB Group**
Emma reviewed the draft base economic report, emphasizing that steering committee members have the on-the-ground experience to validate the data. The draft report included demographic and socio-economic data for the Village as well as the comparison geographies of the Town of Marcellus, the Village of Camillus, and the Village of Solvay. Emma noted that overall, the Village’s economic base report was fairly positive as the Village has only experienced a slight population decline since 2010, a median household income of \$75,792, and a median home value of \$224,189. Education levels in the Village are high, with over 96% of residents possessing a high school diploma, over 43% of residents possessing a bachelor’s degree, and over 18% of residents possessing a master’s degree or higher. Emma indicated a couple of key statistics such as the Village’s aging population as over 37% of Village residents are over the age of 55, households with a disability at 24.6%, households without access to a vehicle at 6.9%, and households below the poverty level at 7.0%. Emma stated that aging populations require additional services and specific housing types but noted that the Village is in a much stronger position than many other communities as it already has dedicated senior

housing. Emma encouraged the steering committee to review the report in more detail and reach out with questions.

IV. Visioning Exercises

MRB Group

Emma led the steering committee through a range of visioning exercises to gather what the group loves about the Village of Marcellus and what needs to change to enable the Village to move forward. The steering committee provided responses to questions such as: Why did you decide to live in the Village of Marcellus? Why do people choose to live, work, or invest in the community? Why might someone not want to move to Marcellus?

Key themes from the discussion included:

- Preserving Marcellus's community character
- Maintaining the Village's neighborly friendliness
- Preserving the walkable environment
- Creating a more vibrant Main Street
- Encouraging business development
- Improving communication between the Village and community
- Building trust and encouraging civic engagement

Emma noted that the responses from this visioning session would be used to support the information for Public Workshop #1 and the community survey to build the planning foundation (vision statement, planning principles, and priority policy areas of the plan).

V. Activity Prior to Next Meeting

MRB Group will take the input from the steering committee to finalize the public engagement strategy. MRB Group will complete edits and updates to the draft economic base report and continue to work on gathering stakeholder information to activate public engagement for the plan and finalize the location for Public Workshop #1.

VI. Next Meeting

Public Workshop #1 – Target August 13, 2024

Steering Committee – August 28, 2024