

VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN/LWRP
WATERFRONT AND OPEN SPACE WORKING GROUP

REPORT OF STAKEHOLDER MEETING, SEPTEMBER 11, 2008

(Prepared 12/9/09 by Anne Impellizzeri based on fragmentary notes found, recollection, the September 2008 monthly report of the Working Group, and the SWOT below.)

The WOS WG Stakeholder Meeting was held on September 11, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Cold Spring Firehouse. Approximately 30 people attended; the group had expected more and were concerned that communication between the Special Board and the public is not sufficient.

Interim Leader of the group, Karen Dunn, opened the meeting and gave an overview of the working group's efforts, particularly a detailed inventory of every riverfront property.

Ms. Dunn then led those present in expanding the SWOT list that the working group had developed. Judith Rose recorded the comments which were projected for all to follow and are presented below.

SWOT from Waterfront and Open Spaces Working Group (WOSWG)

Developed at Stakeholder Meeting 9/11/08. Received from Karen Dunn 9/29/09.

(There is also another WOSWG SWOT that cannot be located except for the hard copy version in Anne I's files.)

Strengths

- Educational component-teaching arena for area history, ecology
- 19th century ambiance- we have preserved the historic architecture and infrastructure
- Informal gathering place as well as social center for events, concerts
- Close proximity of residential and recreation
- Open space along water with public access
- Proximity to NYC
- Access to waterfront via automobile
- Tourism opportunities

Weaknesses

- No water access for boats over 30' feet
- Pollution (old gas plant remediation)
- No retail for visitors or residents
- Difficult for handicapped, or strollers to access lower Main by foot
- Confusion about Boat club- who can use it, why is it marked "Private"
- People congestion
- No restrooms

- Lack of event facility
- Lack of people access to water- would like a beach or riverpool
- Light pollution both from our lights and West Point
- No bike racks
- Land use of parking lot could be reconsidered
- Marathon privately owned- limits opportunities for public use
- Railing unsafe on dock, riprap unfriendly

Opportunities

- Make a dedicated area for teens
- Create a village green
- Encourage more bed and breakfasts
- Basketball court, recreation opportunity for older children
- Dock/storage and launch for small boats-rowboats, canoes
- Sailing program and rentals
- Museum – for instance about ice yachts
- Village garage site could be connected to Dockside
- Use Garage site for a tax revenue generating purpose or as a village center with meeting hall, offices, and recreations such as ice rink
- Promote train/boat visitors
- Environmental opportunities for Dockside-native planting, habitat restoration
- Support Bird habitat
- Create another Pedestrian bridge over tracks-2nd access from Main Street
- Create and mark Bike and pedestrian paths
- Reevaluate Boat club- how can it be better utilized
- Preserve view shed at Marathon (treeline overlooking cove)
- Purchase Marathon for village uses or a fairground

Threats

- Need to preserve residential character – the waterfront is not just recreation
- Potential overdevelopment – look at possible build-out impacts on parking, traffic
- Code does not adequately address flooding, steep slopes
- Run off from Village and Nelsonville via Back Brook, Foundry- look at overflowing septs, investigate permeable asphalt and other surfaces
- Overburdened sewer plant dumps in Hudson because of stormwater
- Need to maintain a safe residential area
- Inappropriate zoning in several areas could result in unwelcome development
- If properties developed or recreation added the single egress will be even more overburdened
- Parking for visitors is limited; if we add bike/kayak, new boat launch need ot also consider trailers parking