

MEMORANDUM

TO: Town of Arietta Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee

FROM: Laberge Group

DATE: November 13, 2008

RE: **RECREATION, NATURAL RESOURCES & HOUSING WORKSHOP
SUMMARY RESULTS FROM THE SECOND COMMUNITY WORKSHOP**

This report summarizes the findings of the second community workshop held at the Arietta Town Hall on November 6th, 2008. The workshop was the first of two visioning sessions for Town residents, focusing on recreation, natural resources, and housing needs. A group of approximately 15 citizens attended the session, worked in three small groups, and mapped their recreational and housing vision for the Town.

Participants were given maps with existing hiking, biking, and snowmobile trails. Each group then developed a vision for future trail connections and new housing developments. Several topics were discussed at the tables, including affordable housing and senior housing. Attendees expressed a similar desire to limit future housing development to retain its small town atmosphere. All three groups mentioned Spy Lake as a potential area for new development, including rental properties.

Recreational activities were recognized as important economic engines for the Town, so residents developed a list of specific items that they believed would benefit the area. Better routine maintenance of existing hiking and snowmobile trails was mentioned as an important first step. All three groups wanted to make the Irondequoit Club more accessible to the public, possibly increasing recreational activities on site. Participants also wanted new trail connections between existing trails, specifically behind the school, Polly Road, and Old Piseco Road.

Table #1
Housing

- Develop more rental properties in an effort to attract new residents that are unable to afford a mortgage.
- The Town should allow development along ridgelines.
- There should be more development along the lakefront of Spy Lake.

Recreation

- The Town should develop trails and facilities with the ability to host triathlons and/or bicycle races.
- Future development of trails to Piseco Mountain.
- The NYSDEC should use the areas currently designated for camping and campsites for recreational activities.
- Shake Place should be used for recreational activities again.
- There needs to be better public access to Spy Lake.

- The Irondequoit Club should become more recreation based, as opposed to using the large site for hospitality.

Table #2

Housing

- The Town needs more affordable housing.
- The Town needs housing targeted towards senior citizens and retirees.
- More development of single-family housing along lakefront of Spy Lake.
- More development of housing along Evergreen.
- The Town should provide the opportunity for more low-income residents to afford housing by using Federal funds and grants to build low to moderate-income housing.

Recreation

- Potential development of the Irondequoit Club into a recreational activity area.
- More multi-purpose trails.
- The Town should widen existing snowmobile trails.
- Moving Northville-Lake Placid trail away from Piseco Lake.
- Develop more trail loops.
- Better public access to Spy Lake.
- Develop a multi-use trail behind the school.
- The Town should create more recreational uses at Shaker Pit.

Table #3

Housing

- Limit future development to retain small town atmosphere.
- New single-family housing development along Rt. 10 near Spy Lake.
- Develop senior housing opportunities, potentially at the airport or the “stump dump”.
- Develop an RV Park at Bakers Pit.

Recreation

- Better routine maintenance schedule for Panther Mountain trail.
- More mountain biking trails from Old Piseco Road to Rt. 8.
- Develop a bike lane along Polly Road.