

**Town of Red Hook Comprehensive Plan - Steering Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 24, 2026 7:30-9:00pm**  
**Red Hook Town Hall**

**In Attendance**

Committee: Laurie Husted, Hart Migdal, Sam Phelan, Ben Shute, Julia Solomon (Chair)

Liaisons: Sarah Imboden (Liaison, Village of Tivoli), Melkorra Kjarval (Liaison, Village of Red Hook), Jacob Testa (Liaison, Red Hook Town Board)

Guests: Eric Pierson (Pattern for Progress)

**Regrets**

Dennis Kanuk, Jennifer Mañón, Chuck Mead, Tricia Reed, Taun Toay (Liaison, Bard College)

**Minutes**

Minutes from the January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.

**Updates**

Pop up engagement boards are ready. Contact Julia if you would like to use them.

**Discussion – Comprehensive Plan Structure & Organization**

Eric recapped some themes from the committee’s January discussion of example plans: desire to balance ‘polish’ with utility of the plan; desire to keep the plan approachable (not too long, use appendices for supporting info); keep audiences in mind (Town Board and committees, residents); balance present-day issues and plan longevity; include brief history and context sections; address implementation.

The committee discussed options for organizing content within the comprehensive plan – vision statements, goals, objectives, strategies, etc. – and how these could relate to the types of content likely to be included in Red Hook’s plan. The committee discussed questions related to incorporation of spatial elements, appropriate degree of specificity for strategies, and approaches for implementation.

**Discussion – Phase 1 (Visioning) Community Engagement**

Eric reviewed the community engagement that has been completed and submitted to date. Notes from 17 Kitchen Table Conversations have been submitted, 130 survey responses have been completed, several focused engagement activities have been held at the Red Hook Community Center. Committee members reported on several additional upcoming engagement activities (e.g. Bard student engagement, Kitchen Table Conversation at Traditions). Middle school and high school student engagement will take place in March.

The committee felt that most engagement gaps identified at the January meeting have been addressed and it is appropriate to move to the next phase of the process. The visioning survey will close at the end of February. Future community engagement will focus on goals and strategies.

### **Discussion – Phase 2 (Goals & Strategies) Community Engagement**

The committee discussed planned spring engagement, including:

- Workshop #2 – Focus on 1) confirming that vision and goals accurately reflect what people said; 2) soliciting ideas for strategies. Likely in May, with expo-style format to make vision/goals/strategies visible to participants. Will do broad promotion for this event, possibly including tools such as lawn signs and/or postcards. The committee discussed options for making this event accessible to as many residents as possible. More details to follow.
- Apple Blossom Day (May 9) – Display will be designed to complement Workshop #2
- Focus groups – To be held after Workshop #2 to get more specific input on strategies. Eric and Julia will reach out to several town committees for initial conversations in the meantime.

### **Next Steps**

*Next meeting: March 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:30-9:00pm*

*Topics will include: Phase 1 (Visioning) findings, Phase 2 (Goals & Strategies) community engagement plans*