

## Greenprint Committee Meeting Notes

**Date: 9/6/2024**

**Duration: 8:30-10:00 (1.5 hours)**

**Present: Mike Powers, Kirk Lincoln, Kristen Ivanick, Joel Radder, Paul Shear, Bob Altieri, Kira Eimiller, Joe Rowley, Betsy Lehan**

### **Summary of Meeting (for full recording of meeting, contact B. Lehan)**

M. Powers opened meeting with review of past committee achievements (last active in 2019, 1694 acres preserved) and the committee's purpose; "to find appropriate open space we can preserve forever."

Committee positions were discussed, and unanimous vote determined:

**Mike Powers: Committee Chairman**

**Joel Radder: Committee Vice Chairman (with Kirk Lincoln assisting in future as needed)**

**Betsy Lehan: Committee Secretary**

**Bob Altieri: Board Liaison**

Items distributed: Town of Clarence Greenprint Participation Interest Survey, Greenprint Map

M. Powers proposed that all members work individually to identify available for-sale or open land using 14 point ranking tool (to be supplied, see action items below). Preferred properties should have frontage/open vista/protection of wetlands (however Board may be disinclined to purchase wetland property that may require state or federal involvement). Members should present properties of interest at next meeting, or call M. Powers if the opportunity is urgent. In this case, Board involvement or a special committee meeting may occur. B. Altieri noted that it is the role of the committee members to identify properties, not negotiate for them. Per M. Powers it is permissible to ask a resident if they are interested in participating in the program. If the committee agrees that a property should be pursued, it will be presented to the Board by B. Altieri and P. Shear.

The group discussed the distinction of the Greenprint program buying development rights versus buying the property outright. J. Rowley asked if the program can target acquiring conservation easements, which M. Powers declined; citing the land would not legally be ensured to be green in perpetuity due to general municipal law.

Jonathan Bluer (Clarence Director of Community Development) and Steven Leising (Clarence Zoning Inspector) were identified as knowledgeable resources, however, P. Shear cautioned that the department is currently understaffed and that these resources should be utilized with strong discretion.

The group discussed the importance of confidentiality, with a commitment from all members that properties of interest and general Greenprint Program endeavors will only be discussed amongst committee members and not with the general public.

Ways in which to publicize the resurrection of the program was discussed and it was agreed that a letter will be sent to all landowners with >25 acres of property notifying them that the Greenprints program has been reestablished.

The Greenprint Committee will meet the first Tuesday of each month at 8:30 in the Town Board Meeting Room.

**Action Items:**

**All members :**

- Consider installment of ranking subcommittee to further evaluate properties and to utilize other interested residents who are not on committee. This will be reviewed again once committee is more established.
- Use <https://gis.erie.gov/> and other resources to identify properties of interest.

**M. Powers:** locate and disseminate 14 point ranking tool to all members.

**B. Altieri:** ~~Reserve Town Board Meeting Room for next 6 months.~~ **COMPLETED**

**K. Eimiller and B. Lehan:** Use GIS system to identify landowners with >25 acres and draft outreach letter. Send letter for approval to members. Mail letters before next meeting.

**The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 in the Town Board Meeting Room.**