

York Impact Research Group Meeting

Saturday April 11 2015, York Town Hall. 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon

In attendance: Davies Nagel, Pat Gardner, Steele Fuller, Lee Gratwick, Rebecca Lewis, Dave Deuel, Roberta MacLean, Larry Smith, Anne Roth-Blizzard

We reviewed Minutes from 7 March meeting. Clarified that we had merely questioned whether the county had been discussing brine spreading on roads. Minutes to be amended.

The IRG portion of the Town of York Website is up. We agreed it would be more effective to add articles and resources as separate links rather than referencing in meeting minutes.

Roberta McLean will be working on **Government and Services**.

**Quality of life:** Anne summarised her review of Avon's report and presented York-specific assets which may be considered in addition to health, including the Genesee Abbey, Linwood Gardens, Warren Homestead, Greenway, festivals. Becky and Lee will assist in developing this report. They were interested in water resources. May need to re-look at topics, over-lap.

**Economics:** Larry Smith presented a comprehensive report on his work thus far, focusing on York as a Right to Farm community with a population of 10,000 milking cows. Also several other relevant statistics including that only Rtes. 63, 36 and 20 are capable of commercial development. He pointed out the potential industrial impact on people and animals: light, vibration, noise, altered character of the town, pollution of water on the farm, traffic. He brought an article (<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/04/13/weather-underground>) linking waste disposal in Hydrofracking with earthquakes. Concluded with the importance of thinking in larger/longer range economic terms: returns on fracking wells are limited; returns on farming are not.

Road use agreement came out of Steering Committee (based on Steuben county). Industry would be financially liable for repair of town and local roads. State roads would be responsibility of NYS DOT.

We discussed taking a look at the number of people who are actually dependent on private sources of water. What is the quality of their water? Are they willing to pay for public water?

Steele reminded us to read the Steering Committee's report; said there were ideas in there we could use. Also said that Wednesday's meeting sponsored by the York Open Space Committee was excellent. Dave Deuel and Dave Nagel will attempt to obtain a copy of the power- point presentation from the Open Space Committee presentation for our viewing.

**Land, Natural Resources and Waste Management:** Davies presented work he completed on his outline for this topic.

**Next meeting: Saturday 9 May 10:30 a.m. Location TBA**

Respectfully submitted, Anne Roth-Blizzard

