

West Monroe Master Plan Committee Scrutinizes First Draft Plan

The West Monroe Master Plan Committee after meeting more than a year at the Town Hall has opted to change scenery for the next meeting scheduled for 6:30 P. M. Tuesday June 2nd, they will meet at the West Monroe Historical Society's building located on Route 49 in the hamlet of West Monroe. The building is located near the intersection of County Route 11 and NY Route 49; of course the public is urged to attend.

Members of the committee will digest and scrutinize the contents of the first master plan draft for West Monroe. Maps of the proposed land uses within the town are outlined for the public to view; they include commercial, residential, hamlet, recreational, agriculture and mobile home sites. Generally most of the land north of Route 49 will be classified as residential/agriculture, the commercial zone will be designated as the corridor from I-81 eastward along Route 49 to County Route 11.

At the May 19th meeting much discussion centered on West Monroe's land bordering Oneida Lake. Most felt this land is a great asset to the town and should be utilized to the fullest. The Master Plan Committee discussion centered around two areas of concern that have access to the lake, private owned marinas and state owned land. The committee in their draft is attempting to include guidelines that will make it profitable for private owned marinas to continue operating as present levels with the possibility of expanding facilities without being penalized through increased or unfair tax assessments, other costs or regulations. Users of the lake in the Toad Harbor area are aware the DEC land leading to the lake has been gated off due to an unruly incident of last year, the committee is hopeful it can work with the DEC through mitigation perhaps to have that area open once again for public use.

The Master Plan committee is and has been working very hard to come up with the best plan to make West Monroe a better more economical place for all its residents both commercial and private. Although the committee is made up of a great cross section of West Monroe residents and business people public input is critical that all ideas are discussed. This first draft plan will in a very few short weeks lead to a final draft plan that will be presented to your Town Board for approval, don't be left out of the process attend the next meeting June 2nd at the West Monroe Historical Society.