

Bolton Committee Drafting New Comprehensive Plan

*Open House
Set for Sept. 22,
Town Hall*

By Anthony F. Hall

“Planning is the triumph of logic over dumb luck,” says Bolton Deputy Supervisor Susan Wilson, and with that adage in mind, the Town of Bolton has begun the year-long process of drafting a new Comprehensive plan.

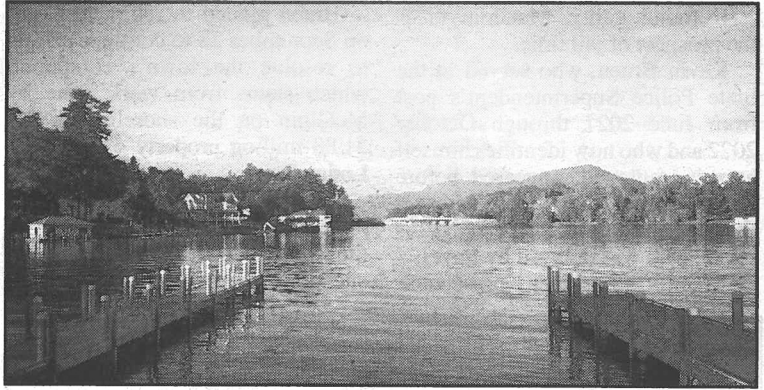
“The process will produce a roadmap that our community can follow for the next 10 to 20 years,” said Wilson, noting that Bolton’s last Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2003.

“A Comprehensive Plan will help us determine where we are today, where we want to be and how we get there,” said Wilson.

According to Josh Westfall, Bolton’s Director of Planning and Zoning, the plan “will provide a framework for the Town Board, the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals as the members make the decisions that shape the future of the town.”

Earlier this year, the Town Board appointed a committee of residents to draft the plan.

As of August 4, the Comprehensive Plan Committee consists of: Henry Caldwell; Holly Dansbury; John Gaddy; Barry Kincaid; Gena Lindyberg; Jason Saris; David Smith; Kathy Suozzo; Susan Wilson and Ike Wolgin.



Bolton Bay from Rogers Park. Mirror file photo.

Westfall said the committee will pay especially close attention to issues such as: land use and zoning; housing; and infrastructure.

Westfall said the committee will also discuss: business, economic development and growth; recreation, conservation and preservation; community and family services; renewable energy; and transportation.

Every issue will be considered in light of the principles of Smart Growth, said Westfall.

With funding provided by New York State’s Department of State, the Town of Bolton has retained a consultant from the Albany-based Laberge Group to help steer the drafting process.

While the residents’ committee will be responsible for the plan that is ultimately submitted to the Town Board for its approval, public participation is encouraged, said Westfall.

A six-page “Bolton Compre-

hensive Plan Community Survey” is now being circulated in a variety of locations, formats and media to elicit residents’ and visitors’ thoughts about Bolton, its least and most pressing needs, its lower and higher priorities, its strengths and weaknesses.

On September 22, an Open House to gather additional comments and stimulate further conversation, to be facilitated by Laberge Group consultant Kevin J. Schwenzfeier, will be held in the Bolton Town Hall from 4 to 7 pm.

Stakeholder meetings with organizations and groups will also be scheduled, and regularly scheduled committee meetings will be open to the public, said Westfall.

“It’s important to get input at the local level, especially from younger people who will be living with the consequences of the new Comprehensive Plan,” said Committee member John Gaddy.