

**Danby Gas Drilling Task Force
Minutes
27-Apr-2011**

Present: C.Bowman, R.Horowitz, R.Chase, T. Crane, R.Dietrich, K.Halton, S.Beeners, C.Bowman, M.Terlizzi

- Meeting brought to order at 7:06pm
- C.Bowman described a communication from Eric Banford, regarding his petition effort, and questioned whether a survey by the GDTF would be needed in addition to the petition. S.Beeners rehearsed the various efforts (mostly unofficial, as yet) underway: review of Comprehensive Plan, review of Zoning regulations, Banford's survey. R.Dietrich wondered, if a law was to be written, how it would get written, and whether NYS law supports a ban vs regulation (and regulation, in this case, is not allowed).
- Long conversation about the whole, "What can we do about this, and what are other Towns doing?"
- Minutes of 13-Apr-2011 approved by acclamation.
- K.Halton requested that her name not appear in the minutes, other than as "present."
- S.Beeners and C.Bowman described potential regulation related to Critical Environmental Areas, currently being talked about by the CEA subcommittee.
- C.Bowman hopes to have some draft text, related to Aquifer Protection, ready by the next GDTF meeting.
- Several of those present wondered how much control the Town (and residents) have over the location of pipelines.
- S.Beeners offered to prepare an "action plan"; a flowchart of the steps needed to prepare and enact regulations (zoning, etc.).
- J.Tiffany briefly rehearsed the Rapid Waters State Forest public hearing, April 14 in the Candor High School. She distributed a proposed official comment, prepared by Joel Gagnon for the Planning Board. Lengthy discussion ensued. Someone will circulate a draft response for GDTF folks to review and add to; J.Tiffany will work up the result for the next GDTF meeting. Comments are due to the DEC by May 14.
- R.Horowitz rehearsed the Watkins Glen meeting on April 14. 300+ people attended. Inergy, apparently, worked stealthily with the Town Board of the Town of Reading to prepare and get approval for its proposal. Inergy owns salt mines in the area, they propose to store propane and butane underground. Brine is used to keep the liquid gases underground, there will be a multi-acre brine pond. Company says that there is no bearing on the Marcellus drilling, but the same technology can be used to store gas from Marcellus wells. Inergy plans to make its facility a centralized, regional resource for gas storage; trucks and trains may be involved. Huge industrial complex in and around Watkins Glen. While the local approval appears to be a done deal, DEC will be having public hearings.
- J.Tiffany circulated a list of legislation pending in the NY Senate and Assembly.
- Next meeting, May 11, 2011, 7pm. The May 25 meeting will be moved forward to May 18, with a major focus on Bowman's Aquifer Protection draft.