

**DRAFT**  
**Comprehensive Plan Work Group**  
Town of North Dansville & Village of Dansville  
14 Clara Barton Street  
Dansville, NY 14437

**Minutes for Monday, July 20, 2026**

**Meeting was called to order** by Nancy Nice at 6:00pm

|                                                              |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Work Group members: Chairperson, Nancy Nice (Planning Board) | Present |
| Co-Chair, Quinn Golden (Community)                           | Present |
| Katie Infantino, Secretary (Planning Board)                  | Present |
| Ann Lafford (Community)                                      | Absent  |
| Marcia Miller (Community)                                    | Absent  |
| Chuck Infantino (ZBA)                                        | Present |
| Susan DeMuth (Community)                                     | Present |
| Kathy Button (Village Board)                                 | Present |
| Jeff Wiedrick (Village Board)                                | Present |
| Bob Infantino (Town Board)                                   | Present |
| David Luce (Town Board)                                      | Present |

**Guests:** Dennis Weidman, Charlie Perkins, Salome Farraro, Julee Acomb.

**Minutes: A motion was made by Quinn Golden** to accept the 6/15/2026 minutes. **2nd by Susan Demuth.** No discussion. All in favor 9 AYE, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTAIN, **motion passed.**

**New Business**

**TO: Dansville NY Comprehensive Plan Committee**

**FROM: Dansville ArtWorks Inc.**

**July 20, 2026**

Presenting for Dansville ArtWorks: Salome Farraro, Treasurer and Board Member, 2014 to present and Julee Acomb, Chair, Mural Committee and Board Member, 2023 to present; Jeanne Gridley, Co-founder FairyDoors of Dansville and Secretary and Board Member, 2014 to present, provided information by email.

**WHO WE ARE**

Dansville ArtWorks incorporated and gained nonprofit status in 2014. We have several digital channels: dansvilleartworks.com; Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. Our murals are listed on Google Maps. We are a community arts organization whose mission is to cultivate and enhance the visual, literary, and performing arts opportunities in the greater Dansville community.

**WHAT WE HAVE DONE AND CURRENTLY DO**

Between 2015 and 2021, we operated a gallery in two downtown Dansville locations with exhibited original artwork, consigned artwork for sale, art workshops for children and adults, and art performances. Our gallery ceased operating in 2021, primarily due to COVID and the demands gallery operations placed on the board of directors.

In our current virtual capacity, we continue to drive arts programming in Dansville. We do not have a paid membership base. We have no paid employees. Our board is entirely volunteer based. Our committee members are volunteers. Since 2016, we have annually secured a variety of grants for programming and capacity building. We cover our website and other administrative costs from a small percentage of each grant we administer.

Past programming: Dansville Chalk Walk and ArtsFest; conduit support for George Guida's Finger Lakes Performing Arts Series and Cristine Riedel's storytelling series; Dansville Mural Festival in 2022; Clara Barton Mural in 2024; Eye-Magine The Future Youth Art Exhibit in 2025.

Current programming:

1. Marketing support for Women's Craft Nights, a free program in partnership with Genesee Community College, managed by our board member Allie Oliver-Burns since 2025.

2. Launched in 2017, Fairy Doors of Dansville (unique folk art installation and walking trail of 30+ tiny fairy doors throughout downtown Dansville in addition to many more in Pioneer Park). Fairy Doors partners with business and building owners who currently contribute \$35 a year towards overall marketing of the program; the balance of program expenses have been grant covered thanks to regrants via Genesee Valley Council on the Arts. This program is managed by board members Jeanne Gridley and Susan DeMuth.

Jeanne provided a longer summary of the program (see below), but I would like to read her comments about ways the town and village can support the program. She appreciates it when sidewalks are clean and accessible for visitors with varying ambulatory needs. Planters look lovely and add to the beauty of our village. A turnoff is seeing windows that are nasty and dirty. It's important for visitors and residents as well to see a well-maintained business district and to feel safe and welcome.

3. Dansville Granula Mural, managed by our Mural Committee. Julee Acomb is chair of this committee, which formed independently in 2022 to manage the LivCo Walls Dansville Mural Festival. ArtWorks secured partial funding for the festival via a community arts grant from Genesee Valley Council on the Arts. Following the festival, the committee became a standing committee of Dansville ArtWorks. Its placemaking mission is to create murals in downtown Dansville that depict historically relevant local topics. Louise Wadsworth, formerly of Livingston County Economic Development, has been a solid resource for the committee's work.

For each mural project, the committee develops a survey and solicits downtown building/business owners regarding their interest in a mural, the suitability of their building, their potential contribution to the project, and their preferred mural topic. The committee selects and contracts with one building owner, then develops and markets an RFP for the project, reviews muralist applications, contracts with the muralist, secures funding, and manages the project, a two-year process.

For the 2024 Clara Barton Mural at 170 Main Street (owned by the DePras), ArtWorks partnered with the Village of Dansville to secure a LivCo First Impressions Grant. The project was further funded with a community arts grant from Genesee Valley Council on the Arts and private donors. The just-completed Dansville Granula Mural at 188 Main Street (owned by the Mitrousis family) was funded by an Arts Ignite grant via Genesee Valley Council on the Arts and numerous private donors.

4. Conduit support for a 2026 grant from the Rochester Area Community Foundation to composer Glenn McClure for his newest folk opera project: Pulling the Thread: A Clara Barton Story. This piece will focus on the ten years Barton spent recuperating and living in Dansville. He also has received funding from the National Endowment for the Arts for this project via Genesee Valley Council on the Arts.

And lastly, while not our project, there will be another mural this year on the Jefferson Street wall of Foursquare Church, this funded by New York State Council on the Arts and managed by LivCo.

Our president, Samantha Davis, has some thoughts she asked I share with you.

1. Do the Town and Village have a budget line to support community initiatives? Would the Town or Village be open to supporting any of our programming?
2. Are you aware of other public art initiatives or planned projects in Dansville? Are there art initiatives the Town or Village would like to undertake but lack the skillset our organization has?
3. Our biggest challenge is finding interested individuals to serve on our board so that our organization can continue to thrive.
4. Demands on state budgets may impact future local grant access.
5. A forum or method for cross-sharing information with community leaders, movers and shakers, something similar to the Comprehensive Plan Committee.

#### THOUGHTS ON ART AND PLACEMAKING

<https://www.arts.gov/impact/creative-placemaking/creative-placemaking-resources>

Community development strategies that integrate arts and culture are better equipped to draw upon and support existing community assets, preserve and enhance the authentic character of the place, and ensure equitable outcomes for local stakeholders. Creative placemaking, arts and culture can strengthen communities by helping to revitalize local economies, provide rich engagement for youth, advance educational outcomes, create spaces and places where people want to be, facilitate authentic engagement in community planning, reimagine uses for vacant properties, and improve the quality of life for existing residents.

Read about the economic impact of art and placemaking on a local economy.

<https://www.fourtheconomy.com/post/the-roi-of-placemaking>

The Fairy Doors of Dansville (FDD) to

## Dansville Comprehensive Plan Committee

Program description: The FDD is a unique folk-art installation of more than 30 whimsical fairy doors created by local artists and located in the business district of the village. They are in place year-round, with most being visible in a window of their host's location even when closed for business.

Maps for the fairy door trail are available to guide visitors to the locations of the little doors. More signs of fairies and gnomes can be found in the trees of Pioneer Park.

In addition to the fairy door trail, the FDD enjoys a partnership with the Dansville Chamber of Commerce for June's Second Saturday event, called the "Fairy Fest." A very popular event with lots of participation by businesses, organizations, and vendors. For their part, the FDD sponsors hands-on craft activities, photo ops, and live music. This program began back in 2017 and has continued to grow.

Vision for the Future: We believe that the FDD have provided a boost to our community's vitality by providing a genuine attraction to our village, adding to the positive light of Dansville's image and contributing a boost to local businesses and to our public library in a time when many small-town villages are struggling. Additionally, our ongoing goal is to offer a free, family-friendly attraction that invites participation year-round for folks of all socioeconomic backgrounds. We hope to continue to inspire people's imaginations, bring a sense of fun and delight, and offer a respite from the stressors of our everyday lives.

Challenges: The most significant challenge is financial. The cost of advertising, printing maps, and buying materials for new fairy doors, as well as live music and supplies for the Fairy Fest are a yearly concern. Our fairy door hosts contribute \$35 yearly to help with expenses although we have had some drop out of the program due to that yearly expense. We have applied for and frequently received some grant funding through the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts. This is not guaranteed from year-to-year. We'll just need to adjust our program to fit the finances.

Ways that the town and village can support us: We would not expect financial support but appreciate it when the sidewalks are clean and are accessible for visitors with varying ambulatory needs. The planters look lovely and add to the beauty of our village. A turnoff is seeing windows that are nasty, dirty and look like a slum. It's important for visitors (and residents too) to see a well-maintained business district and to feel safe and welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Gridley, co-founder of the Fairy Doors of Dansville

### Additional Comments:

- There are tour buses stopping on Main Street in Dansville. The riders are getting coffee, food, and looking at the murals. We should find a way to capitalize on this.
- The Second Saturday events and Winter in the Village are designed to get people to cross the threshold of a business they might never go into.
- The goal is to increase foot traffic on Main Street.

- Cleanliness of Main Street is key. Lots of buildings are well maintained but some are not. Question of whether this is something that can be addressed by village code.
- Vendors are never stationed in front of the three buildings owned by Mr. Pfunter.
- Curbs need to be fixed on Ossian Street. It was mentioned that this would likely be happening before winter of this year.
- The trashcans should be more strategically placed.
- It was noted that Mr. Morris has someone who regularly cleans the sidewalks.
- Brian Fairbrother and his crew took extra time to make the sidewalks safe for Winter in the Village. That is much appreciated.
- Store owners aren't taking the time to clean and sweep their sidewalks as is stated in code. This may be more of an education piece, as they might not know it is their responsibility. Many are renters and they rely on the landlords to take care of it.
- Over 100 people came for the mural painting event!
- Always looking for younger people to participate. Boards and committees grow with young blood.
- There are ways to penalize or educate store owners if they aren't taking care of their storefronts. This is something code might be able to address.
- The Village Board could amend local laws to have more control of what happens with the storefronts downtown. For instance, they could regulate the percentage of window space that can be covered.
- Quinn suggested inviting people for the social organizations such as Lions, Rotary, American Legion, VFW, Moose, and Masons. If anyone else has suggestions please let Katie know.
- **Motion by Dave Luce** for the comprehensive plan group to take the month of August off. We will meet again in September. **Second by Kathy Button.** All in favor 9 AYE, 0 NAY, 0 . No discussion. Motion passed

### Old Business

- Three quotes for the Town Board- Katie reported that she contacted both MRB and Livingston County and neither one provided a quote. MRB wanted to speak with the Town Supervisor and Livingston County gave us the name and contact information of Rich Sutherland at Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council. He has helped another town in Livingston County and may be able to assist us. Nancy will be in contact with him..

**Next Meeting:** September 21, 2026, 6pm in the North Dansville Town Hall Auditorium, 14 Clara Barton Street.

**Motion by Quinn Golden** to adjourn, 2nd by Chuck Infantino . All in favor 9 AYE, 0 NAY, 0 . Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Katie Infantino, Secretary  
Comprehensive Plan Work Group (CPWG)