

# Smart Growth Housing Work Group

Submitted by J. Shue

2/12/23

## Meeting #7 Minutes

1/30/2023

Present: Mark Denicore, Cecelia Walsh-Russo, Sara Evenson, Danny Lapin, Jared Shue

Next meeting: 2/13/23 @ 5:30 pm (online – Google Meet)

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/twq-jead-jms>

### 1. Announcements

- a. None.

### 2. Discussion

- a. Mark Denicore, a civil engineer and attorney out of the Washington DC area – originally from the Oneonta area, sent a sketch idea to Mayor Drnek to create a pedestrian mall on Main Street. Mayor Drnek forwarded Mr. Denicore to the Smart Growth work group and he was invited to discuss his idea with the group.
- b. The group discussed the challenges and opportunities of closing Main Street for a permanent pedestrian mall. Challenges include the lack of existing wayfinding, high retail vacancy rates, and lack of year-round city population to support retail along a pedestrian mall.
- c. Sara Evenson proposed Water Street as an alternative street for a pedestrian mall.

### 3. Next Meeting

Ad-hoc meeting #8 will take place on 2/13/2023 at 5:30 pm on Google Meet. Mark Denicore has invited John Martin, a principal at Kimley-Horn (a planning and engineering firm out of DC), to speak about Downtown Revitalization.