Has Sustainability Become a Dirty Word?

Mary M. Thompson, CMP Executive Officer



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Our Mission Statement

The Home Builders & Remodelers of Central New York is an association of professionals.

Our members are your trusted team of industry leaders and community partners providing homes, education and economic opportunity.

Our Objectives...

The HBR of CNY's objective is to bring together the best and most reliable industry associated businesses, for the purpose of raising the bar of professionalism and customer service, and moving toward the goal of affordable housing for everyone in Central New York.



Who we are...

- Our HBR of CNY members are your neighbors
- They maintain successful companies that employ local talent
- They volunteer their time, energies and talents to local boards, civic organizations, and community groups
- They know that Central New York is a great place to live, work, play and raise a family and they are proud to help build, remodel and maintain the housing stock in our region
- The HBR of CNY has over 200 businesses as members engaged in the residential construction industry
- Our members businesses' employ more then 15,000 Central New Yorkers
- Parhome building | remodeling | allied services

What we do...

 Resources, education, networking for our members





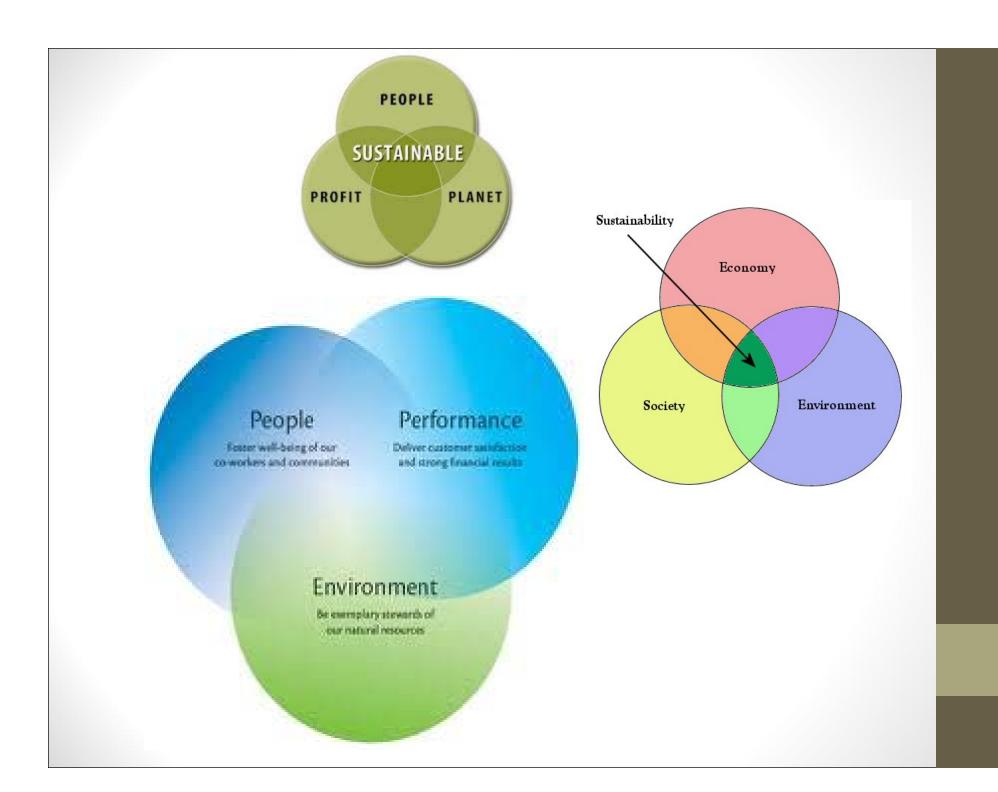


Our part in the Sustainability Plan...

- Two members on the Community Steering Committee
- Several meetings with SOCPA offering member feedback on the draft plan
- Lots of questions...

What is sustainability?

- In ecology, sustainability is how biological systems endure and remain diverse and productive.
- Sustainability interfaces with economics through the social and environmental consequences of economic activity.
 Sustainability economics involves ecological economics where social aspects including cultural, health-related and monetary/financial aspects are integrated. Moving towards sustainability is also a social challenge that entails international and national law, urban planning and transport, local and individual lifestyles and ethical consumerism.
- From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Personally, I like...

The integration of environmental stewardship, social justice, and economic vitality.

Often its painted as all "green"



Which only leads to more questions

because, what is "Green"



So, lots of questions....

No agreed upon answers...

This is really hard on business.

It costs
everyone
time, energy,
& money.



What would help?

- As planning & zoning board members –
 become educated on the "whole process"
- Clear Expectations / Good Communication
- Consistency
- Listening from those who are "in the field"
- Deciding on & working toward common goals
- Streamlining processes
- Be careful of "NIMBY"'s

Ideas from our industry

NAHB Smart Codes / Smart Process Checklist

- Prepare a good comprehensive plan
- Update/evaluate plans & regulations regularly
- •Plan for & fund infrastructure/capital improvement program
- Allow for different housing types

Specific to Our Community

- Comprehensive sewage study & land mapping
- Repair and replace aging infrastructure
- •Come to a common understanding as a region, to terms such as clustering
- Work together (as municipalities) on development issues
- •Work on and stick to your community plan