Comprehensive Plan Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: [8/8/2023]

Time: [6:02]

Attendees: [Joanne, Jason, Buddy, Peggy, Yvette, Laura, Dave, Jan. Craig Freshly (guest consultant)]

Notetaker: [David Asmussen]

Approval of Minutes: [July meeting minutes approved unanimously]

Additional Agenda Items: [Update to Economic Section of Comp plan from CDAC, Rt.24&Abbagadaddset bridge & MMT, bean density video, ]

Agenda Item 1: [Update From housing Committee. Introductions.]

Agenda Item 2: [What do we want to have at Celebrate Bowdoinham, to feed into the Oct 11 and Nov 1st public meetings. Working backwards, goal is to make recommendations to planning board and select board for changes to LUO. Before that write the Land Use section of the comp plan.

Helpful to say: this is what we have decided, and now we are moving forward with X. Opportunity to educate citizens about what has been decided. Good to show a timeline of when different public forums happened.

This was inspired by housing need, (rentals and entry level houses), and desire for thoughtful development that retains rural nature. Trying to determine which ordinances to work on to achieve these goals for the Village and the R/A districts.

“This is what you told us”, now “what do you want to tell us” We got here because of challenges XYZ (sewer, density, clay soils)

The questions: What type of housing and where in town? Stickers with preferences of what they like. Offer simple choices, eg =. Housing type X in this area, or Housing type Y in this area.

Try to drum up excitement for the forums, get wider engagement. Educate on how big an acre is (area of dirt part of parking lot is ½ acre.

Agenda Item 3: Forum plan: here are our parameters, this is what we learned, this is what we want to find out tonight. Note first of two forums. Collect data on first forum, propose conclusions to 2nd forum. November should have pretty narrowed down stuff and will draft proposals for the comp plan.

Q’s for Oct 11. -

-**Would you amend ordinances to allow increased density in Village district as long as there is adequate setback space for the building and septic to process waste. ]**

**-Would we expand village district 1/2 and establish another 3rd village district at north end of Rt. 24.** (**to correspond with public water)**

**-Would we decrease density in the R/A**

Note that affordable housing has been an undercurrent driving these density discussions.

Forum: start with presentation. lay out parameters of what is on the table. Craig will flesh out the agenda.

Need to be able to have stats on hand. Capacity of schools, capacity of richmond water/sewer. Active Farms.

Can we answer questions about how it will impact the schools (is there a rule of thumb? info from grow smart?) Jason says, every 3bdroom house = ~$7000 tax burden if house has kids.

Action Item 4:

Next steps:

This week. Craig to send draft agenda for Forum which we can use for Celebrate Bowdoinham

9/16 Celebrate B’ham

10/11 Forum

10/17 Planning meeting for forum 2 (with Craig)

11/1 Forum 2

Action Item 5:

Reviewed changes to Economic development section of the comp plan. Discussion about what “Open Space Plan” refers to. Could be a municipal open space.

Action Item 6:

Celebrate Bowdoinham planning discussion. Jason, Yvette, Joanne to regroup on what handouts will be needed, what factoids need to have on hand.

Discussed feedback for Abbagadasset Bridge and how it is close to the proposed merrymeeting trail. Potential for water access, parking for trail and water access, bike lane between bridge and MMT>

Viewed Bean Density video.

Action Items: [Get map for Richmond water and sewer to address (jason), map of updated conservation land, formal statement from Richmond water and sewer district re: expansion (Jason), Joanne to bring sandwich boards, Jason to get rough numbers to have at forum: tax burden per house, per house with kids, per house with seniors.]

Future Agenda Items: [see above]

Meeting adjourned: [8:09]

Signed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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