

Comprehensive Plan Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: 10-08-24

Time: 1803

Attendees: Laura, Dave, Jan, Bill, Jason, Buddy, Yvette as facilitator

Notetaker: Laura

Approval of Minutes: 09-10-24 minutes reviewed and approved as presented

Additional Agenda Items: Yvette wished to notify committee of upcoming planning work for community projects

- 1) Select Board requested feedback about having a Volunteer Appreciation Day at some point, possibly April 2025. Feedback was mostly positive. Several felt they would not feel as appreciated if we had to bring the food for a potluck. Others mentioned they did not wish to commit to yet another activity in their already overflowing schedules
- 2) Review of survey results. Community feedback from the online survey and the booth at Bowdoinham days was reviewed. Top items of interest focused on Agriculture conservation plan, protect open space in the rural ag district and the open space plan. Lowest priority centered around the historical preservation plan, public health plan and the tree/forest outreach.

There was significant discussion about how to focus on the top priorities and where we could best spend out time and energy. We reviewed each item and who could most effectively work on the different areas.

Forest/Tree owner outreach: Dave and Peggy will work with Kate Cutko to contact resources and organize an education session or two to help educate and inform residents on care and management of the trees on their property.

Historical Preservation Plan: The Historical Committee will continue to take the lead on this and bring their recommendations to the CPC as needed.

Public Health Plan: The Community Health Officer, Fire Department and EMS resources will be asked to work on this with the goal of improving knowledge of the existing resources and improve public access to this information.

Waterfront Pavilion Planning: CDAC will continue to work on this.

Walkable Village Plan: CDAC will continue to work on this. There is already a meeting scheduled to work on safer pedestrian access across route 24.

Climate Action Plan: There may be funding from the state through a CRP grant in 2026 for an initial vulnerability assessment. Yvette will keep us updated on this in future.

The remaining areas were closely related; the agriculture conservation plan, the protect open space in rural/ag district and the open space plan and the committee felt this was the area we should begin to focus on.

Yvette suggested consulting with Community Heart and Soul Network. This would involve expense but would bring expertise to help with the process. Opinion was mixed on the committee, and it was felt we needed to know more before committing to this. Additional resources were mentioned:

Kennebec Estuary Land Trust

Beginning with Habitat

Maine Farmland Trust

State Planning Office

MCOG

Growth Smart

Land for Maine's Future

Other Towns' solutions

Development Transfer Rights

Consultants such as Community Heart and Soul

The committee asked if we could get input from a couple of these resources at the next meeting and Yvette will see if she can get someone from KELT and Beginning with Habitat to talk to us.

- 3) Yvette mentioned that community input will be needed for upcoming town planning for the Waterfront Pavilion, the BRIC grant for the yellow building and design for use of the Old Town Hall. Any and all who are interested are asked to volunteer for these committees.

Meeting adjourned 1933

Signed: Laura Arnold

Date: 10-11-24

Upon completion of minutes save file to Sharepoint: Documents > Minutes & Agendas.