

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 2, 2026 AT 6:30PM

Meeting Held at Kendall and via ZOOM

Present: Marty Szydowski (Chair), Finn Smith (Vice Chair), Ian McConnell (Secretary), Hope Libby, Lee Parker, Yvette Meunier (Staff)

Absent: Wayne Sanford

1. Meeting called to order with requirements for a Quorum met
2. Meeting minutes from 5/5/2026 approved as submitted
3. Public Comment - none
4. Staff Updates
 - a. Land Water Conservation Fund Grant Application
 - i. Committee agreed to provide a letter of support to accompany the Town's updated Land and Water Conversation Fund grant application if Article VIII in the upcoming Town warrant passes at Town Meeting.
5. Old Business
 - a. Roles and Responsibilities
 - i. New CDAC chair met with the Town Manager to discuss CDAC's role within the town governance structure. He shared his takeaway that there is not a set prescription for what the committee should work on, as some projects may come down as a request from the Select Board while others may "bubble up" from committee members or the public. At times, CDAC may be asked to "carry the water" for a specific step of a larger town process or plan.
 - ii. The Chair shared that, most importantly, CDAC is never the final seat of authority, with decision making responsibility ultimately resting with the Select Board. CDAC is responsible for advising and making recommendations to the Select Board.
 - iii. MCOG has agreed to facilitate the development of a communication working agreement to be utilized at CDAC meetings moving forward. MCOG will join the next CDAC meeting as part of this process.
 - b. Re-introduce CDAC work plan
 - i. Committee reviewed the long list of potential workplan activities included in the most recent Comprehensive Plan, with more tenured members providing some historical context on different projects.
 - ii. The Chair requested Town Staff to highlight those items that are seemingly closer to action for review at the next meeting.
 - iii. Committee discussed the important question of how to ensure that the activities we pursue reflect the interests of the public, and particularly

community members living outside of the village area who may not always feel heard. Current methods for garnering community input include:

1. Annual CDAC meeting with local businesses
 2. Community-wide surveys via the newsletter
 3. Tabling at Celebrate Bowdoinham
- iv. Committee discussed the possibility of using Facebook and the Bowdoinham Friends & Family group to highlight opportunities for public input while turning off 'Comments' to avoid unnecessarily divisive commentary.

6. Public Comment - none

7. Agenda items for the next CDAC meeting
- a. CDAC Workplan working session
 - b. Discuss meeting protocols

8. Next CDAC meeting is scheduled for July 7th at 6:30 pm

9. Meeting Adjourned