

Comprehensive Planning Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2025 at 6:00 pm

Present: Peggy Christian, Chair; Yvette Meunier, Staff; Allison Tanner, Buddy Schott, Jan Marks, Bill Stanton

The meeting was called to order at 6:00, with Peggy presiding and Bill recording the minutes.

The September minutes were read and approved unanimously. No items were added to the agenda.

Staff Update: Yvette reported that the Planning Board wants more information about the preparation of the Open Space Plan. Also, the Planning Board raised the broader question of whether their group or ours should be doing the Open Space Plan project.

Tree Subcommittee Report: Jan Marks said the subcommittee is in the process of writing the introduction to the plan and determining the main headings. They are also working on how to inform the public about the project. She said that her goal is to have the plan ready for review by our committee next month and the Select Board in March.

Celebrate Table: Peggy Reported that the booth was busy all day. There was a lot of interest and curiosity about open space planning. It could result in the committee acquiring one or two new members. The "eggs in the basket" exercise was a big hit. Allison reported a person having a question about whether wildlife habitats would be addressed.

Town of Berwick Information: Yvette included a handout of a Power Point presentation that Berwick used to introduce open space planning. She thought there were some good ideas in it that we might borrow.

Open House: Peggy explained that the open house for prospective new CPC members will be conducted during the first part of our next meeting. It should take ½ hour or so. The intent is to interest new members in helping with the open space plan, a sizable undertaking expected to take 2-3 years. Peggy thought that the session should be informal and interactive, with each CPC member making a short presentation. The session will emphasize what developing an open space plan will entail. Attendees will be encouraged to ask questions. Also discussed was how to advertise the meeting. The possibilities are "The Bowdoinhammer" and "Friends of Bowdoinham" Facebook page. It was decided to use both means. The proposed letter to CPC candidates was reviewed and edited.

Next Agenda Items: Yvette suggested that for the next meeting we begin drafting a mission statement for the open space plan, and think about how to go from there.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Recorded: Bill Stanton