

MINUTES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE

July 12, 2017

7:00 p.m. Town Hall

Present: Timothy Thompson, Chair
Peter Curry
Elizabeth Goodspeed
Kevin Guimond
Sara W. Lennon
Susana Measelle Hubbs
Harvey Rosenfeld
Victoria Volent

Absent: Penelope A. Jordan

Also present: Maureen O'Meara, Town Planner

Call Meeting to Order

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order and asked for public comment.

Public Comment

Peter Dixon, 29 Westminster Terrace, said he has lived all over the world and is familiar with zoning.

Paul Seidman, 21 Oakview Rd, said he has several comments about the survey, and would like to offer them when the survey is being discussed. The committee agreed to that.

Approval of minutes of June 14, 2017

The minutes of June 14, 2017 were approved without amendment 7-0.

Public Participation

Logo

The logo was discussed and the Committee agreed to have the logo with the lighthouse. They would like the lettering saying comprehensive plan, to be larger. The vote was 7-0.

Strawberry Festival

Several members spoke about how favorable the public response was to the Strawberry Fest. They all felt it was a successful event and it was a great opportunity to get input from the public. They had the boards with the public's responses on them. Ms. Colby George had made up a wordle with the responses in larger or smaller type depending on the number of times an item was mentioned. Ms. Goodspeed will do a write-up for the record along with Ms. Measelle Hubbs.

The website public questions were due to be changed on Monday the 10th. Judy Colby George has provided a description of how the online questions and moderator should be handled. Each member has that as a reference and can use it when it is their turn to moderate the website question. The moderator is to acknowledge the comment and encourage discussion, not necessarily get into a substantive policy discussion about it. Judy Colby-George also prepared proposed rules for the online questions. The committee voted 8-0 to approve the set of ground rules.

The Committee revisited the issue of the logo due to a concern with consistency about using both 2019 and 2030 as a date referenced by the comprehensive plan. The committee voted 8-0 to remove the date and make the words Comprehensive Plan larger.

Review Draft Public Opinion Survey

The Committee discussed the draft of the survey question by question. The following is a summary of their decisions on each question. They began by discussing the method of gathering the survey by phone. They wondered if there would be a preliminary contact with the chosen sample and would it be by phone, postcard or other.

On Q03 they want "main reasons" instead of "primary." Strike bike trails and walking trails and just use open space/trails, and Town services rather than local government services. They would like a yes or no for each item on the list.

Q04 they want "main reasons" instead of "aspects" in the question and the same changes as in 03 in the responses.

Q05 they would like there be a scale from 1-5 rather than 1-10.

Q06 and Q07 are fine as is.

Q08 Police department services rather than police protection services.

Q09 Fire department services

Q10-Q14 Fine as they are.

Q15 Take out snow plowing and just have snow removal.

Q16-18 Leave as they are. Add a category to be Community Services

Q19 They want all of the responses to go to Q20.

Q20 Response 03 to be just mobile homes.
Response 04 to be manufactured homes.

Q21 All responses to go to Q23.

Q22 Instead of "provide affordable housing," they wish to say encourage affordable housing. For responses, they want
01 young adults
02 young families
03 empty nesters
04 senior citizens
05 residents in need of assisted living
06 anyone

Q23 They want to remove restaurants from the category of hospitality and make it a separate category. They want to add 2 new categories, Entertainment and Food trucks.

Q24 Strike the word "any" from the question.

The Committee wants to reverse the order of Q 23 and Q24.

Q25 Fine as is.

Q26 Replace 5 years with 10 years in the question. The Committee wants to remove Q38 and Q39 from this group and make it a whole new question about Fort Williams which addresses the issues of overuse of the park and revenue to support the park.

Q40 The Town Comprehensive Plan Committee in the question.

The demographics Questions. The Committee would like to make the income questions simpler.

Mr. Paul Seidman commented on several of the questions in the survey and asked the Committee to make changes to 5 of them. The Committee revised Q08 as above to accommodate his opinion.

Demographics and Population Chapter Review

This will be the draft for the Committee to make their comments and corrections and then it will not be revisited until their final edit.

The comments were first about the charts and how hard they are to read. Ms. O'Meara said they will be done over in a larger font.

There were questions about the charts on page 3. The numbers on the charts were different. Ms. O'Meara explained that the first chart was only Cape Elizabeth and the second one was in comparison to other towns in Cumberland County, so the percentages of growth were different.

Mr. Curry would like to know what share of the population the Town had in 2010. That chart will be added.

Mr. Guimond asked if the senior population growth from 2010 to 2015 was because of the opening of the Cape Memory Care facility. Ms. O'Meara said that it was not due to that facility.

The Committee discussed the population by age group and how that would impact the planning of housing, schools etc. There will be later chapters that will need to keep in mind these statistics.

Ms. Volent wants the paragraph about household size to contain all of that information, and the paragraph about household composition to be a separate one. She rewrote those and read them for the Committee. The Committee approved her revisions.

The Committee voted 8-0 to accept the draft Demographics and Population Chapter.

Status Report

Ms. O'Meara drafted a status report for the Town Council and the committee has asked to add the Strawberry Fest, including the wordle that was developed from that. They will also include the fact that they have completed a chapter.

The status report was accepted 8-0.

Committee Member Items

The Committee has chosen to change their meetings from the second Wednesday of the month to the third Wednesday of the month.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday August 16, 2017. Items on the agenda may include:

Public Opinion Survey

Economy Chapter

Housing Chapter

Ms. O'Meara suggested two mini-surveys in preparation for the Housing Chapter. She asked if the Committee approves a short survey to address the belief that "Cape people do not live in condos". It would survey condo residents and ask if they own or rent their condos. It would be a brief survey by mail, approximately 350. The committee approved doing this survey.

She also suggested a survey of why new home buyers are choosing the towns they live in. Why do they choose to come here rather than another location? The survey would ask people who bought homes here, and in the comparison communities, why they chose their location. The committee approved this survey.

Public Comment

Mr. Dixon, 29 Westminster Terrace, said he had been asked a survey at one time and the survey had given the questions in advance of the phone call. He wondered if this survey would do that?

The Committee voted to adjourn at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiromi Dolliver
Minutes Secretary