

Comprehensive Plan Ad Hoc Group
Meeting notes from 1-28-2020
Municipal Building

Kim Andersson
Allen Tarrance
Kevin Hardwick
Carla Dickstein
Jason Putnam
Anne Leslie

Review progress on sections

Allan (Historic and Archeological Resources) has met with the Lincoln County Historical Society and they are more than happy to help. They did not anticipate any major changes. One thing they recommended is using actual street addresses.

Kim read state guidelines for updating. Tip: don't get caught up in the inventory.

Carla (Population, Housing, Economy) will be working with Zach. Important for broadband. She will review data from the Municipal Planning Assistance Information. She will explore regional trends as well as local happenings. She believes we'll get more "climate refugees" in Maine going forward. The former Wiscasset Primary School is heading toward becoming residential units. Carla notes that you could do mixed housing: affordable and market-rate.

Rental housing is sparse here.

Kevin and Anne slogging along...need to review current laws and regulations.

There's no contract for Elswyth's time. She has a grant that will fund a limited amount of time to focus on the transportation section of the comp plan.

Jason: Ordinance Review Committee just updated definitions for what's allowed in every district.

Carla: Where should broadband be placed in the plan? It doesn't fit neatly as a "public service" or a "public facility."

Public resources: Kevin visited the wastewater treatment plan and updated that information. About \$500,000 to update the facility; about \$2,000,000 to update information, including pumping station. With rising sea level, it's not clear how long the current location will be viable.

Municipal Finances: Katie updated this section.

Regional coordination: Colleen working on this.

Carla: Where should we put childcare facilities? Senior housing?

Maybe under Public Facilities and Services? Better to create a new section: Social Capital

Where should we put solar energy? In both the Natural Resources and the Public Facilities and Services sections.

A company has engaged by contract with the Town of Wiscasset to evaluate 70-80 acres of land for solar installation. Carla says solar companies are competing now for opportunities. Noted: the Town should put any contracts out to bid in the future.

Kim will provide the Municipal Planning Assistance Program link.

Defining the comprehensive plan committee: Who should be doing this work?

Chamber of Commerce

Chewonki

Molynecke

Ames Supply

Small businesses

Garden Club

Sno-Goers Club

Racetrack

Churches

Families

Morris Farm

Wiscasset Village Downtown Organization

Recreation Center

Retirees

Telecommunicators

Others

Low-income representatives

Other?

School community

High School representative

Teens2Trails

Maine Art Gallery

Art Walk

Nonprofits
Businesses
Small businesses
Municipal Departments (School, Selectboard)
Community Centers
Town Boards
Religious Organizations

Socio-economic diversity, age diversity, people with diverse interests

7-11 members?

Should we hire a planner? We have \$20,000 to spend on planner.

Visioning will be good down the road, with guidelines.

We could have a survey soon.

Great to look at other people's plans.

Topsham's new plan has a summary and vision statement up front.

MDOT funds are underwriting work on the transportation chapter but that should not affect our policy choices.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 25