

TOWN OF CAPE ELIZABETH  
MINUTES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE

October 4, 2018

7:00 p.m. Town Hall

Present: Timothy Thompson, Chair  
Peter Curry  
Elizabeth Goodspeed  
Kevin Guimond  
Penny Jordan  
Sara Lennon  
Harvey Rosenfeld  
Victoria Volent

Absent: Susana Measelle Hubbs

Also present: Maureen O'Meara, Town Planner

Call Meeting to Order

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

Public Comment

Paul Seidman, 21 Oakview Rd, said if you are going over the recommendations, he thinks some of them are in conflict with the public survey.

Approval of minutes: September 6, 2018

The minutes were approved, 7-0.

Public Participation

- Third public forum: date, format, etc.
- Public Participation chapter

Mr. Thompson said the committee had been asked to come to the meeting with questions for the forum. He said Ms. Hubbs had sent him some questions for the forum.

Ms. Jordan would like to do the priority setting exercise before formulating the questions. She feels that as we go through that priority setting, questions will arise.

No one disagreed, so the Regional Coordination Chapter was the next item to be discussed.

### Regional Coordination Chapter (second draft)

Ms. Jordan likes the addition of the school programs, but she would like more emphasis on other programs, academics, etc. She said we need to utilize PATHS more. She wants this stated in the goals. She wants schools and facilities in the goals. She wants the language in the Goal to say aggressively pursue....

Mr. Guimond spoke about his experience with consolidating the dispatch. He said none of the towns wanted to do it, so if they hadn't been pushed by the state, it would never have happened. It has saved millions of dollars for each town. No one wants to do this, but there are real savings in regionalization.

Mr. Rosenfeld said he agrees and it is everything, including school superintendents, public works directors, etc. He also said nobody wants to talk about that, so it doesn't get done.

Ms. Lennon wants to soften the language to say embrace promising opportunities for collaboration, cooperation and sharing....

Ms. Jordan said she still wants the goal to be aggressively pursue...., and the language about the schools to be the softer language.

Ms. Volent asked about the recommendation about the Cape Cottage Fire Station.

Ms. Jordan would like it to say that we need to evaluate the needs of the fire station services in Cape Elizabeth and look toward neighboring towns to maximize our financial resources.

For the second recommendation they decided to pursue opportunities for sharing wherever possible, with particular attention to public safety, public education, public works, including sewer maintenance and library services.

It was decided to add words at the end of the key findings statement: "and promote the health of the region."

The committee voted 8-0 to accept the Regional Coordination Chapter.

Ms. Lennon wants to talk about the Future Land Use Chapter. She does not like the addition of low growth impacts section.

Mr. Thompson reminded Ms. Lennon that the next two meetings are devoted to reviewing all the chapters, so it will then be a good time to talk about that chapter.

### Implementation Chapter

- Priority setting exercise

Ms. Volent wants to discuss the first item. She does not think Fort Williams fits with the Economy Chapter. She feels the fort belongs in the Open Space Chapter. She is not sure that the Fort should be discussed in terms of increasing revenue without being specific as to how to increase those revenues.

Ms. Jordan said the Council is looking into those possible types of revenues. She wants it to be a broad strategic statement, nothing specific.

Ms. Volent does not agree with making Fort Williams a source of revenue.

Several people said the goal of this is to make the fort self sufficient, not to raise revenue for the town's or school's needs.

Ms. Volent said she would like this under the Open Space, not under Economy.

Ms. Lennon said they have 90 items to get through, and we are stuck on no. 1. She suggests that they put a D in front of the items that they want to discuss and come back to those later.

The committee asked whether they want to encourage tourism. They don't want to expand the tourism that already exists.

Ms. Volent would like to have a review of the short term rental ordinance.

They went through the 91 recommendations and labeled their priority as High, Medium, Low or Ongoing, with the addition of discussion or question.

### Public Participation

- Third public forum: date, format, etc.
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The committee had a wide ranging discussion of possible topics for the public forum, the questions to be asked in the key pad polling, and the entire format of the evening. The result was that they will have a review of the chapters that have not yet been covered in the previous forums, Existing Land Use, Future Land Use and Regional Coordination. The format will be the same as it has

been in the past. They will ask Ms. Colby George to structure the evening and the questions. They want to have the key pad polling and small tables for discussions. Some of the topics proposed for the small table discussion were, how to manage tourism in the context of the character of the town and what are the highest priorities for municipal spending.

They want to have a 1/4 page ad in the "Cape Courier", but not an insert into the paper. They want to use the insert as a general advertising tool.

The committee agreed that they will review the Public Participation Chapter after the next forum.

### Vision Statement

The vision statement from the 2007 Plan is on page 243 in the Future Land Use Chapter. Ms. Lennon read the vision statement from the survey. The committee made some changes and Ms. O'Meara will bring it to the next meeting. The vision statement will go on page 5 of the new plan.

Ms. O'Meara asked for suggestions for the executive summary. Several people gave suggestions for what they want to have in that document.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, November 8, 2018**. A public forum will be held on October 30th. Items on the agenda may include:

- Vision statement
- Public Participation Chapter
- Review entire plan
- Executive summary highlights

### Public Comment

Paul Seidman, 21 Oakview Rd, said that small town character might be a way to say rural character. He thinks this is what people want to preserve.

The committee voted 8-0 to adjourn at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroshi Dolliver  
Minutes Secretary