



Comprehensive Plan Task Force Meeting
Minutes May 18, 2023
Harpswell Town Office via Zoom
Approved June 15, 2023

Members Present: Brian Hirst, Peter Lieberwirth, Amy Haible, Phil Taylor, Kevin Johnson, Julie Moulton, Al LeGrow, David Brown, Bob Eaton, Ron Hutchins, Mary Ann Nahf, Kevin Johnson, Howie Marshall (guest from the Energy & Technology Committee), Mark Eyerman (Town Planner), Judy Colby-George and Madeline Tripp (VIEWSHED)

1. **Call to Order and Review Agenda:** Al LeGrow called the meeting to order at 2:35pm.
2. **Recap of April 27th Meeting:** Al briefly summarized the April meeting.
3. **New Business:**
 - a. **Communication**
 - a. Madeline Tripp reminded the group that a new article topic is needed for the July issue of the Harpswell Anchor and requested volunteers to write it. Al volunteered to write the article about how the Open House goes and about upcoming Focused-Subject Meetings.
 - b. **Inventory Open House—May 24, 4pm-6pm**
 - a. **Outreach:** Al reported about handing out flyers for the Open House the previous Saturday at the Recycling Center and shared tips for the next group. He and Amy Haible volunteered to cover the next Saturday.
 - b. **Committee & Organization Contact List:** Al is updating and consolidating the contact list, so that Task Force members can sign up to be the contact for the remaining committees/organizations. Al will also be asking Harpswell TV to send someone to film the event.
 - c. **Task Force Roles:** Madeline and Judy reviewed the plan for the Open House and asked for volunteers for each of the tables of grouped topics. The remaining Task Forces members are asked to circulate, chat with attendees, and help with sign-in. Everyone is asked to take notes of their conversations.
 - d. **Refreshments:** Bob Eaton volunteered to bring light refreshments and lemonade/coffee.
 - c. **Reviews of the Following Inventories: Land Use, Transportation, and Public Utilities**
 - a. **Public Utilities**

Peter Lieberwirth introduced Howie Marshall from the Energy and Technology Committee and invited his feedback on the Public Utilities Chapter. He shared about the research that the Energy & Tech Committee have hired a consultant to do on broadband access, work that CMP is doing to improve the electrical grid, and progress toward implementing parts of the Sustainability Plan. The Town has decent coverage through DSL or Comcast, but this is disrupted with power outages. Residents want more competition and equitable access. The consultant is looking into Fidium's fiber optic coverage. A discussion of this, the electrical grid, and sustainability (such as solar opportunities and electrification of Town's HVAC system) should be added to this chapter. Dark sky protection was also suggested as a topic in this or another chapter.
 - b. **Transportation**

There was a discussion of whether the new development at Cook's Corner in Brunswick, and its potential impact on traffic should be mentioned. There was also concern over whether

Maine DOT's data on Annual Average Daily Traffic Volumes capture seasonal changes and COVID changes. It was suggested that Viewshed add data from the nearest permanent traffic counter in Brunswick to supplement the limited data available on Harpswell's traffic and verify trends.

c. Land Use

The number of nonresident owned parcels was striking to the group, and there was a discussion on how to make sure that we incorporate nonresident feedback into the plan by reviving the annual nonresident taxpayer's meeting.

d. Final Comments and Adjournment:

There was a discussion on the state of potable water resources in Town. Mary Ann and Amy will coordinate offline on a potential project to document well issues in the town, in an effort to not duplicate previous efforts.

e. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Next Meeting: June 15th, 2023 at 2:30pm