

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE  
Tuesday, July 9, 2002

Minutes

ATTENDANCE: Jim Stephenson, Chairman; Brad McCurtain Co-chairman; Priscilla Rand; Elizabeth Algeo; Charlie Turner; Harold Burnham; Jean Carter; Chris McClellan Greg Foster; Rich Rothe, Planner, Anne Bearce.

1. Call to Order. Jim Stephenson called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM

2. Approved the Minutes of May 22.

MOTION: Jim Stephenson motioned to approve the Minutes as written.

VOTE: Carried

Jim opened the meeting with an overview of the evening's agenda.

3. Neighborhood Meetings. Rich Rothe gave an overview of the structure of the Neighborhood Meetings, referencing his handout "Summary of Results of June 2002 Neighborhood Meetings Town of Raymond Comprehensive Plan Committee." He stated that the issues raised by Raymond citizens were unprovoked, highlighting those that appear to be of the greatest concern (see handout). Rich also stated that one weakness of this format is that even though some issues were not brought forth by participants, (i.e. concern over scenic views) it does not necessarily mean such issues are not of concern.

With the arrival of Brad McCurtain, Jim thanked Brad for his work on the Neighborhood Meetings and the preparation made by him for this meeting.

4. Summary of Town Meeting surveys. Although completed, the data gathered from the May 18th town meeting survey were not available for this meeting and will be discussed at a following meeting. Harold did reference a few items from his notes.

5. Discussions developed over whether an adequate cross section of Raymond citizens voiced their concerns and also if we have enough input to proceed with confidence. In response to Brad's comments about property rights listed as an issue, but receiving no points, Greg stated that he does not particularly like attending the Comprehensive Plan Meetings because he does not endorse planning that seeks to further regulate people. He believes there are other citizens that have the same sentiment which drives their lack of interest in attending Comprehensive Plan Meetings. Elizabeth Algeo asked how we get these people to a meeting. Charlie Leavitt stated with confidence that there are very few property rights people who think like Greg, and there is no core of this type in Raymond and we need to move on. More discussion developed around input gathering, including more surveys, visiting local organizations among other things. A wide variety of discussions of this nature continued.

MOTION: Jean Carter motioned that the committee start review and discussion of strategies for housing at the next comprehensive plan meeting. Seconded by Chris McClellan.

Rich Rothe suggested that even if there is a false start, corrections can be made. Charlie Turner stated that the summer residents need to be included as much as possible. The discussion continued around how to involve summer and permanent residence. Suggestions included expanding e-mail communications, mailings and publications communications.

VOTE: Carried .

The discussion of involvement by the citizens continued. Elizabeth suggested the Comprehensive Plan Committee produce an article for every issue of the Road Runner and that someone be responsible for its completion. If allowed, the posters drawn by the middle school students will be displayed at the middle school and the town office. Some are already on display at the Post Office. Sunset Variety will also set up a display. In addition, a sign with Comprehensive Plan Committee meeting dates and topics will accompany each poster display. The signs will have to be updated as the meetings proceed. Priscilla will coordinate with the town office and Brad with the middle school.

The need for a secretary assigned to the Comprehensive Plan Committee surfaced. Harold suggested asking the person with secretarial skills who signed up to be a Comprehensive Plan Committee volunteer. Don Willard has advertised to hire a person to take notes.

In other business, Brad asked why the bus tour of Raymond was canceled, as he found the trip he took with Jean very educational. This tour is likely to happen at a later date.

The next meeting is planned for Monday, July 22 at 7:00 PM at the town office.

Discussion about who the voting members of the Comprehensive Plan Committee are evolved. Charlie Leavitt, Elizabeth Algeo, Denis Morse and Dana Desjardins are ex-officio (non voting) members for various reasons. Rick Seeley is listed as a member and should not be. Charlie Leavitt will get the official list of voting members so it can be updated on the town web site and clear any doubt about who is an official voting member.

ADJOURNMENT: Jim Stephenson adjourned the meeting at 9:24

Gregory E. Foster  
Official Voting Member  
Town of Raymond Comprehensive Plan Committee