

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE
Wednesday, November 28, 2001, 2001

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Jim Stephenson, Chairman; Jean Carter; Harold Burnham; Priscilla Rand; Ben Levy; Charlie Turner; Greg Foster; Chris McClellan; Brad McCurtain; Bruce Sanford, Planning Board member; Denis Morse, Fire Chief; Don Willard, Town Manager; and Louise Lester.

1. Call to order. Jim Stephenson called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
2. Last meeting Review.

DISCUSSION: Dr. Stephenson reviewed the discussion at the workshop with the Planning Board. He said that they needed to track where the growth has happened in the last 10 years and compare it with the 1991 Comp Plan. Mrs. Rand asked if a building cap was possible. Mrs. Lester said that she believed that there had to be some dire reason to enact a moratorium or limit on housing. Concurred by Don Willard and Bruce Sanford. Mr. Willard said he would research this with Maine Municipal Assoc. There was discussion as to whether a town has the right to dictate how someone's land is to be used. Mr. Sanford suggested zoning some areas for smaller lots and higher density limits. Dr. Stephenson reported that Rick Seeley informed him that the next grant round would probably come in January with a deadline of February, the decision being made in March. It will be a 50% matching grant. There was discussion about having meetings with surrounding towns for their input and information in what they're planning for their towns. He added that tomorrow evening there will be a meeting of the (Community Council) volunteer groups in Raymond to discuss their wants and needs and to better coordinate their efforts. Mr. Willard also said that there had been a meeting between Gray and New Gloucester to which Raymond was invited. He said there will be another in January which some of the Comp Plan members might want to attend. Dr. Stephenson felt that they should attend and that Rick Seeley mentioned other meetings where issues between towns could be discussed such as our lakes and traffic problems. He also noted that the School Committee will be sending a representative to our meetings in the future.

Mrs. Carter discussed a map which she had prepared showing the heights and wetlands in Raymond saying that these areas should be protected. She also felt that some areas especially the heights should be controlled because of the difficulty of getting services to them. Mr. Levy noted that the addition of Amtrak service to Portland might influence the demand for housing in Raymond. Chief Morse added that summer residents are now using their property weekends and holidays which puts a strain on some services. Mr. McCurtain entertained what should be posted on Raymond's website. Dr. Burnham felt there should be a statement of where the Committee is now and how it hopes to proceed. Dr. Stephenson thought the website might request the public for items of important for discussion. Mr. Willard also said that agendas and minutes could be included. He thought questions could be posed by the Committee for email or other response from the public. Chief Morse added that a request for possible survey questions could be there as well. Mr. Sanford thought that the statement on the October 15th document could be used. Mr. Turner also thought that a "question of the month" could be put in the Roadrunner. Mr. Willard suggested putting a small ad in the Roadrunner about Raymond's website would be beneficial in case people haven't seen it. Mrs. Carter said she would like representatives from the different aspects of Raymond's interest i.e. Pat Smith from Raymond Rec to talk with the Committee. Some suggested groups were: R.E.D., Raymond Waterways, Portland Water District, Cumberland County Sheriff's Department, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Public Works etc. Dr. Stephenson suggested that ways of finding a planner to help with the process would be in order. Mrs. Lester said she would ask the question about RFP's and suggestions from her associate town clerks via their website/email.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: December 19, 2001 at 7:00 pm at the Town Office.

4. Adjourn.

MOTION: There was a motion and second to adjourn.

VOTE: Carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Jim Stephenson adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Louise H. Lester
Town Clerk