



## Comprehensive Plan Committee Minutes

June 7, 2023

6:30pm – Meeting

At Broadcast Studio & via ZOOM

**Committee Members Present:** John Clark, Greg Foster, Peter Leavitt, Frank McDermott, Shawn McKillop, Danelle Milone, John Rand, Jackie Sawyer

**Committee Members Absent:** Kaela Gonzalez – had ZOOM issues and could not join

**NSP Staff Present:**

Kate Burch, Planner

**Town Staff Present:**

Sue Look, Town Clerk

Chris Hanson, Assistant Code Enforcement Officer

**Town Staff Absent:**

Don Willard, Town Manager

1) **Called to order** at 6:30pm by Chair Leavitt with a quorum present

2) **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

a) May 3, 2023

**Motion** to approve as presented by Mr Foster. Seconded by Mr McKillop.

**Unanimously approved**

3) **Old Business**

a) Committee Comments on Raymond Bus Tour - Part 2

Assistant CEO did a fantastic job being our tour guide. Thank you to Windham Rec for providing the bus and driver. A great learning experience for the committee.

b) Discussion of Boat Tour (postponed from last Fall)

The boat can take up to 10 passengers and each needs to wear a PFD. If you have your own USCG Type I Rated PFD, you may use it.

- Friday, June 23rd - 9am – approved by consensus, meet at Raymond Beach at 8:45am. Assistant CEO Hanson will coordinate making sure we have enough seats in a boat(s) for up to 13

#### 4) **New Business**

##### a) Business Cards/Election Day?

500 were printed to start. They have QR code that directs people to the website. They could be handed out during the June Election. Co-Chair Leavitt & Mr McDermott will attend on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 7am to 8pm.

##### b) Summer Public Participation

The committee members have begun contacting associations and will take the business cards to their annual meetings. We could hold a workshop and invite the associations to send a representative. The push for the summer is to get people to take the survey. Assistant CEO Hanson will take cards with him to give out as he is doing inspections, etc.

The committee members were not overly enthusiastic about being in the video. Possibly use videos/pictures with a voice-over. Possibly ask the same types of questions of some kids or “man on the street”. The committee could film on their phone and send it to North Star. North Star will send the video to the committee when it is ready.

By consensus the committee agreed that the survey was ready to be posted on the website, etc. The survey is mostly based on the 2014 Survey. The previous survey had a 20% response rate, which was considered high. The demographics of the respondents to the survey will have some bearing on the results. The more people we can get to take the survey, the better. There was discussion about adding a question about the fact that Raymond allows school choice and adding questions about running a business or natural resources. North Star will look to see if there are similar questions from the previous Comp Plan so they can compare results. In the Fall we will be doing more topic-related surveys, now we are doing a very high-level view of what people overall think of Raymond. The Fall survey will coincide with the beginning of public meetings.

To identify seasonal residents/visitors we can use the tax list, pulling out those with mailing addresses other than Raymond. Town Clerk Look has compiled this list.

##### c) Stakeholder List

Ms Burch – the committee should review the Stakeholder List to see if there are missing and if the committee members have a connection to the entity. There could be columns added to the spreadsheet to add the date contacted and initials, so we know that they have been contacted and by whom.

There was discussion that the term “stakeholder” has a history that reflects settlers staking a claim on land that was not the government’s to give. We should avoid this term. Possibly “interested parties” or “contact list”.

The committee should look for contacts who they already have a relationship with. Town Clerk Look will add a contact date and initials columns so the committee members can record when they make contact.

d) Town Data Collection & Department Head Interviews

The committee members will be doing this, and the data will be used for the inventory chapters. There are 4 questions to ask the Department Heads which can be in-person or via email. There are also data elements specific to chapters that the committee can also ask the Department Heads. Town Clerk Look will send out a contact list of Department Heads and will discuss with Town Manager Willard how to best proceed with the Department Heads. There is less emphasis on the school is less due to being a part of an RSU. North Star will do any interviews that committee members are not able to do.

Please contact the Co-Chairs with your preference. Below are the preferences noted during the meeting. When we have the next Department Heads meeting Assistant CEO and Town Clerk Look will bring up the committee's work.

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Department Head</b>
Chair Leavitt	Fire & Safety
Mr McKillop	Interested in the Housing Chapter which would be Code Enforcement and talking with Realtors and Planning Board
Mr Rand	Natural Resources – Assistant CEO Hanson, Town Manager Willard, Parks & Recreation Director Crocker
Ms Sawyer	Recreation and any subject that someone else does not choose.

5) **Next Meeting Date**

a) July 11, 2023 (tentative date)

The Select Board will decide whether or not to hold their July meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> at their June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Town Clerk Look will let the committee know the status on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr Foster is away for all of July.

By consensus the committee would like to meet on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

6) **Public Comment**

Ray Bersch – a seasonal resident on Crescent Lake, a member of Raymond Waterways, Vice-President & Treasurer of Crescent Lake Watershed Association, and a certified lake monitor – discussed invasive species and phosphorus (which comes from sediment, erosion and pollution), which are the top two issues facing lakes just now. He mentioned that the Watershed Survey is very important and should be considered. Road Associations need to keep erosion in mind and are erosion controls in place. The Annual Meeting is July 15<sup>th</sup>, please attend. He is encouraging his members to attend to hear what Assistant CEO Hanson has to say. The only large parcels are youth camps and at some point the value of the property will be more than running a youth camp. The Town

needs to be prepared for this in the ordinances, plans, etc. Possibly there could be impact fees that could fund the protection of the lakes.

Assistant CEO Hanson – after the 2004 Comp Plan there was a phosphorus control element added to the ordinances, the issue is enforcement. There were grants used for enforcement and road improvement and the grants are no longer available. This is something that we need to get back to.

A Comp Plan needs to be an advocate for the protection of the lakes.

## **7) Comp Plan Committee's Comment**

Co-Chair Leavitt – In Downeast Magazine there is an article in the March 2023 issue about the term “to preserve the rural character of the community” – what does this mean, good or bad? A very interesting article. We have to be sensitive when crafting this plan with the terminology. The committee needs to dig a bit deeper if someone uses this term and ask what they mean by that.

## **8) Adjournment**

**Motion** to adjourn at 8:33pm by Mr Foster. Seconded by Mr Rand.

**Unanimously approved**

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Susan L Look, Town Clerk*