



**Comprehensive Plan Committee
Minutes**

June 5, 2024

6:30pm – Meeting

At Broadcast Studio & via ZOOM

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

Committee Members Absent: none

NSP Staff Present:

Kate Burch, Planner

Sam Peikes, Planner

Town Staff Present:

Sue Look, Town Manager

Melanie Fernald, Town Clerk

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

2) **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

a) May 1, 2024

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

Unanimously approved

3) **Guest Speaker**

a) Robin Mullins, Sebago Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce

Spoke to how she can be a resource between the Town and the businesses.

She's worked with Casco; Gray on their brownfields; Naples, new Town Manager – called a meeting with businesses; Windham – lots of activity, always; Raymond had a Task Force that collected information about what businesses wanted/needed; comprehensive report was created – can we look into what came of that report?

Suggested that we could collaborate with other towns and their businesses.

Spoke to Route 302 and its challenges, MDOT, traffic – pool resources and time to try to solve/address our collective concerns?

4) Public Comment

John Stetson, 16 Merrill Road – what could the MDOT do? What is the “it” that we could/would ask them to do?

Chase Curtis, 22 Merrill Road – asked Robin Mullins if there is some prioritization and conceptualization of the proposed changes in Windham (Maine DOT website has a list of projects). Co-chair Leavitt noted that DOT collects a lot of information

5) Old Business

a) Local Goals, Policies and Strategies

Kate and Sam spoke to the information compiled in several different categories.

Goal: invest in safe and accessible transportation for all – make it easier to walk and bike around Raymond, improve road safety, increase off-road trails for recreation and bike & pedestrian access through town, provide alternatives to driving

RTP used to exist in Raymond, may have been considered underutilized and therefore cancelled. What would it take to bring it back?

Goal: build a resilient Raymond – prepare for the impacts of climate change, construct weather-resistant infrastructure, increase town capacity to serve the community

Goal: protect Raymond’s natural and water resources – conserve Raymond’s most important natural resources, maintain the high water quality of Raymond’s lakes, ponds and waterways, increase public access to Raymond’s water bodies.

Goal: strengthen Raymond’s sense of community – support Raymond’s small businesses, maintain village character in Raymond’s growth areas, support residents of all ages, create more opportunities for community connection

John Stetson – asked about affordable housing

b) Future Land Use Plan

Kate talked through the different portions of the Future Land Use map

Discussed the idea of a mid- to late July meeting. More interest was expressed at the idea of a robust “homework” assignment prior to the August meeting.

6) New Business

a) Public Outreach – Upcoming Election

Pom pom survey to gather the community’s interest on future uses for the Jordan-Small Middle School when the building is no longer used by the RSU in the next few years. Options offered will be: Town Offices, Community/Senior Citizen Center, Library, Recreation, Day Care and “other”.

Sign up for volunteers to man the table

7) Next Meeting Date

a) August 7, 2024

8) **Comp Plan Committee's Comment**

Peter Leavitt – LD 2101 signed into law, increased the penalty for Shoreland Zone infractions, including putting liens on property. It was the Raymond case that started this law, Town Staff and residents should be proud of the work done to make that come about.

Kaela thanked NorthStar for their map of growth areas that will be used in the handout for Election Day communications

John Rand – Spoke to growth areas and the village, small commercial shops and not always “growth” in a larger commercial sense.

Shawn McKillop – question about implementation committee, what that looks like, how many members,

Kate Burch explained that the implementation committee would be whatever the Town decided is needed. Town Manager Look noted that vacancies and the search for committee members is likely to be advertised, and members would be officially appointed by the Select Board.

Peter Leavitt and John Rand spoke to setting priorities for the Implementation Committee to focus on and to keep the list of suggestions to a reasonable and manageable number. Making a list of recommendations that's too long makes it impossible to implement, and makes the work this committee has done all for naught.

9) **Adjournment**

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

Unanimously approved

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Fernald, Town Clerk