

Hancock Comprehensive Plan Notes

November 13, 2023

Present: Ruth Franzius, Rod Franzuis, Renee Duncan, Nick Branca, Patricia Kantur, Brett Ciccotelli, Mary Turner, Doug Kimmel, Antonio Blasi

Regrets: Chris Holmes

Summary of follow up actions:

- Chair will attend a selectboard meeting in December to check on the availability of town funding.
- Members will review sample surveys provided in binder from Town Clerk and solicit any other model surveys
- Members will ID sections for 1992 plan in need of updating
- Antonio will follow up with Town on zoom information
- Next meeting: Thursday, January 4, 2024, 6pm @ Town Office

Minutes:

Antonio reported that the selectboard has a zoom account that could be used by the Comp plan committee for remote or "hybrid" public sessions. The selectboard also allocated \$1000 for use by the comprehensive plan committee.

The group nominated Doug Kimmel to chair the group based on his experience with the last comp plan (which he also chaired). He asked for a co-chair and nominated Ruth to take that role. The group agreed that a different person would take secretary roles at each meeting, starting with Brett.

Nick noted that Chris Holmes would like to join the group but couldn't make today's meeting. There was also interest from Zach Piper, though his interest would be more focused on marine/harbor issues. He noted that George Moon, who had attended the first meeting, forgot about this one.

Patience Blythe, a new resident in town, expressed interest to the Town clerk in joining the committee, but could not attend this meeting.

Renee Duncan asked to join the group and was welcomed with a round of introductions.

The group discussed the need for clarity from the town selectboard about what, if any resources are available for use by the committee. These funds could help with survey creation and mailings or a consultant to help guide the planning process. Without some additional funding from the selectboard and town, the planning process could remain in limbo. In 1992 there was a town match of \$4500, that helped bring in state funding but that program no longer exists, today the state plays less of a role in the Comp plan. DACF now only reviews final plans.

There was a question about what funds may already be approved for this plan. Noting that time and materials had already been used in the planning and organizing of the first meeting by the Town Clerk. The warrant from this year was reviewed, but no funding seemed obvious.

Members reported that in other towns the Hancock County Planning Commission has quoted comp plan fees of \$0-75,000. A wide and not super useful range.

There was general agreement that a survey needed to be prepared and circulated to the town as an early step in the process.

Is there work that we could begin before we are more certain of funding?

- Identify possible funding sources
- Prepare to present to the town meeting for support via town warrant
- Draft survey questions to inform scope of the plan—we liked Gloudsboro's survey as a model. Could we have ours ready for May? How would we distribute? Via mailings, paper copies in town locations, and via an online (linked or QR coded) flier around town and online
- Gather more focused quotes on consultant feed from HCPC

Notes recorded by Brett