

Notes from Hancock Comp Plan Meeting March 7, 2024

Comprehensive Plan Committee members present: George, Chris, Mary, Ant, Doug, Patricia, Ruth, Rod, Renee, Brett.

Ruth and Doug reviewed their observations of the Sullivan focus groups on Sunday (March 3) conducted by the HCPC noting the large turn-out and older age group of many of the participants. The use of 6-person groups with a facilitator was seen as a useful technique; but Doug suggested that having a scribe who reported back to the larger group for further discussion would be a useful addition.

Committee discussed the search for a consultant to assist us:

- We received the proposal sent by HCPC and will review it;
- A request of \$20K for the next year is in the budget for the next Town meeting;
- Ruth circulated a list of additional consultants and a draft letter of inquiry;
- Renee mentioned possible funding available from the "Climate Action Plan" and from "Resilience Funds" from the State.

Committee discussed our next steps:

- We discussed possible ways to conduct focus groups or vision sessions with citizens of Hancock in a variety of ways and locations;
- Doug suggested the Hancock Grammar School (HGS) location and outreach to the PTO;
- Chris offered the East Fire Station garage as a possible location in that part of town;
- George suggested a drop-box at the Town Hall for paper responses;
- Chris mentioned the 4th of July events on Hancock Point to distribute information;
- George suggested the Easter Egg roll (March 31st) at HGS to hand out flyers (see below).

Committee discussed (and practiced) questions to use for the Vision-Focus Groups:

- Why do you live in Hancock?
- What could be better about Hancock?
- What is special about Hancock?
- What would you like Hancock to be like in 10 years?
- What is the one most important characteristic you want to see developed in Hancock?

Actions:

These five questions plus space for comments will be asked of Town Residents via a "Table" in the Town Hall to be created by Mary. Notice of their availability will be given via a flyer to be developed by Renee for handing out at the Easter Egg Roll on March 31st.

Doug will contact Adam Gray, HGS principal, to inquire about a focus group at the school for Town residents (especially parents and HGS staff) to be held before the end of the term.

Brett will review the comments to the survey questions discussed at the last meeting to streamline them into matrix format as appropriate. We may have a mailing to residents in the summer about the focus groups and the questionnaire.

Ruth will contact possible consultants to inquire if they are interested and we will request a letter of interest (not a full proposal) before the next meeting.

Next meeting is Thursday, April 4th at 6 pm.

Notes by Doug Kimmel