

Phippsburg Comprehensive Plan Committee
Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2024, 10:00 AM at Town Hall

PCPC Members in Attendance: Joan Chrane (Chair), Ona Barnet, Ann Marie Bartoo, Merrill “Merry” B. Chapin, Joe Spear, Richard Spear, Dana Stivers and Marie T. Varian

PCPC Members Absent Erika W. Cramer

Others in Attendance: None

The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM

Public Comment/Announcements:

Introduction of Morgan Glynn, the new Resilience Coordinator. Climate vulnerability assessment is being considered, per Morgan. Application is due December 17 of this year. Joan will forward a semi-final version of the Gap Analysis to the group for their review.

A motion was made to consider writing a letter of support for the Resilience Committee and their Community Action Grant process. Richard moved, Merry seconded. All members were in favor.

Merry encouraged the committee to introduce Morgan to other committee members in the Town.

In addition, Merry noted that Georgetown, Arrowsic and Phippsburg will jointly meet in Bath 5-7PM to discuss sea level rise as well as working waterfronts. The meeting will be held at Grant Building on Centre Street.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 5:

Merry’s verbiage on the topic of the Island Institute was slightly amended, and included a further piece of information, as follows:

If anyone would like to join in on the Comprehensive Plan Committee or Marine Resource Committee, there will be a gathering at Wallace Circle, hosted by Robin and Keith Wallace. Subsequent meetings will be held each Wednesday at 8AM at the Library.

Motion to accept minutes as amended Ona. Dana seconded. All approved.

Harpswell Comprehensive Plan:

Joan discussed the process of Harpswell’s Plan and how they utilized the local newspaper to share their progress, as well as how the Plan was organized. Examples of that were shared with the group. The Harpswell Anchor has a list of all related articles that they published to update the community, and those can be found on the website of the Harpswell Anchor.

Checklist Progress:

Erika has offered to meet with committee members individually to assist with their Checklists.

Joan reminded the group that December was the month to work on Checklists, and organize the information in each assigned sections. Discussion continued about the details involved in this process. Marie suggested that each committee provide a brief verbal update on their progress, especially since there may be some carryover of information among/between sections.

Joan also suggested how we might prioritize sections after Checklists have been completed. Ona suggested that any completed sections be shared to help the committee proceed accordingly. Dana and Erika have discussed GoogleDrive and how to share information as it is developed between and among Committee members. Dana discussed how to access the Drive and how to best meet the individual needs of committee members.

Joan also noted that Dina Scordes will be a guest at the January 7th meeting to discuss the FBE. Joan asked Morgan to email Herb to let him know that this document is forthcoming. Morgan will be undertaking mapping as part of her work. Merry suggested that Morgan specifically work the concept of “resiliency” into each of the sections of the Comp Plan. Morgan added that she is particularly interested in social resiliency, and suggested this may be helpful through creating a newsletter. Joan suggested that coastal communities and their villages contributed to the character of the Town, and that a newsletter could explore the common threads of those villages.

Timeline/Phases of a Comprehensive Plan:

A draft copy was presented to the group. Ann asked for feedback on the contents of this document, which were shared. She suggested with further edits/contributions could be discussed at the January committee meeting.

New Business:

Merry reported that approximately 360 surveys were filled out by citizens who were at Town Hall on Election Day. She will circulate the data when it has been compiled.

Merry also reported that the Comprehensive Plan Committee is the driving force behind launching the mapping and that this item is in our budget. A new computer for GIS mapping is at Town Hall, and we are waiting for the Town’s IT person to set it up and install the software, per Joan. Also, training to use the software will be part of that process. Morgan has the skills to use the software and another person from Phippsburg has offered to learn. Joan reported that there is progress on this task. Note that Morgan has been given GIS access and space to work on the GIS software at the KELT offices.

Meeting adjourned at 11:11AM