

Town of Parsonsfield Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, Sep 27, 2022

Meeting Duration: 6:00PM to 7:07PM

Location: Parsonsfield Town Hall.

Attending: Sabin Beckwith; Jennifer Lewis (Vice Chairman); Larry Stevenson (Secretary); Harvey Macomber; Dan Flint; Aaron Bogue; Lynda Sudlow; Raegan Young (SMPDC); James Baron.

- 1) The purpose of this meeting was to review Natural Resources; review revised sections.
- 2) Sabin opened the meeting at 6:00PM.
- 3) The group reviewed minutes of last meeting. Two attendance changes were requested, James Baron was present for June and July meeting; changes made on file copy. Dan Flint was not present for the June meeting; removed from file copy. The remainder of the report was fine. Housing section has additional information including photographs of more modern housing with manufactured construction, solar power and other energy efficient items, with newer designs. Pictures are provided to be added. There was a discussion about the methods used to increase insulation. Should we have a program to certify energy efficient structures? This program could encourage new home builders. There are federal and state rebates available for the upgrades now. Can we and should we include this in the recommendations, strategies, and goals section.
- 4) Discussion of natural resources:
 - a. In the lakes and ponds section on page 2, water quality is up and the e-coli levels are good. Judy Ingram would be the person to talk with about the current levels. There are other organizations looking at the quality of other ponds and water ways. Water quality readings come from Maine state sources. Province Lake is monitored by New Hampshire.
 - b. What is the name of the pond north of Long Pond off Elm St. It has no name on the maps and none known by the committee members. "No Name Pond".
 - c. The first page introduction does not say anything and should be reworked. Something to tie things together. The summary should be added also.
 - d. We need to talk about the things the town is doing now or already done. How much and what land are we preserving? What concerns does the town have? What can or should the town consider? Will we include this in recommendations? Shore line zoning, is there anything the town zoning is doing and should we include this in a separate section? Saco River Corridor will have more answers. There was milfoil cleanup several years ago by a hired company. Done by pros. South River and Emerson Brook are listed as Class "A" water ways. What is this? Listed as what they should be not what they are. You have class A, B, and C. There are put-ins along the Ossipee but no money for development of them. The low number of access points helps keep it clean and litter free, they are not becoming beer party floats. We talked about several points you can go in at or take out at. Talked about the dams along the river and the need for portages. We may want to discuss the endangered butterfly and list the many animals you may see when here. Let us blow our horn here.
 - e. Can we ask people in the community what they would like to see done with the mill in the village. Several local people have ideas as to what can be done. This would include the Stanley Building. One of the main issues is the environmental concerns.
 - f. We can include the Habitat Reference in this section.
 - g. Should we add wind and solar initiatives into this unit? We need to have some solar land use not just water in this section.
 - h. Soil use surveys and low-density development? What is it? What impact can the soil have? The issue is what you can do or support with the soil. Creating bigger developments may

require new soil surveys. Septic issues are the major issues. The soil does not change but, what you want to do with it or the effect on it changes the results of the old surveys.

- i. Make sure we improve and include a summary and conclusion for the section.
- j. Will the budget support printing and providing binders for the report? We had \$5,000.00 added or will be added to our budget.
- k. Education and other community support will be looked at during Oct meeting.
- l. The next meeting is scheduled for 25 Oct at 6:00PM.
- m. At 7:08 a motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn.

Submitted

Lawrence Stevenson