



Long Range Planning Advisory Committee + (LPAC+)

Thursday, September 14, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Name	Present	Name	Present	Name	Present
Sam Rudman <i>Chair</i>	✓	Ted Asherman <i>LMAC</i>	✓	Michael Vance <i>Falmouth Land Trust</i>	✓
Sandra Lipsey <i>Vice Chair</i>	✓	Paul Bergkamp	✓	Jenny Grimm <i>Falmouth Land Trust</i>	-
Caleb Hemphill <i>Council Chair</i>	-	Sarah Boudreau <i>Conservation Commission</i>	✓	Bob Shafto <i>Open Space Ombudsman</i>	✓
Claudia King <i>Council Liaison to LPAC</i>	-	Becca Casey	-	Theo Holtwijk <i>Staff</i>	✓
Aaron Svedlow <i>Council Liaison to LMAC</i>	-	Dave Gagnon <i>LMAC</i>	-	Lucky D'Ascanio <i>Staff</i>	-
Tom McKeon <i>Planning Board</i>	-	Breana Gersen	✓	Andrew Clark <i>Staff</i>	✓
Kurt Klebe	-				

The meeting began at 6:02 PM.

1. Review of draft minutes of the August 10 and August 24, 2017 meetings

The draft minutes of the August 10 and August 24 meetings were approved as written.

2. Open Space Plan discussion

The group discussed revisions to the Plan Fundamentals document. Breana reviewed her latest revision to the plan's vision. Bob questioned whether or not farms needed to be qualified as "productive." The group agreed to leave it as an expression of the desire to promote active working farms in Falmouth. The group accepted Breana's revision.

Sandra wanted to clarify the language of the goals. She noted that the plan itself will not educate the public about the values of open space, but rather create the framework in which that education can occur. Others noted that the plan itself will not protect natural resources and open space, but create the framework for that to happen. Theo said that the plan will in fact play a role in educating the public, but that additional action steps can further outline the education strategy. The group agreed to leave the goals as written for now, with the hope that the language will be made more clear as the plan's outline is fleshed out.

The group discussed changes to the survey. Theo added question #10 as suggested by Ted on the benefits of preserving open space. The group agreed that the question was worthwhile, but that the wording would need to be reduced to keep respondents engaged. Ted and Theo will work on that.

On question #3, Bob asked whether "Disciplined Town cost management" could be made more general. The group agreed that this option should be reworded to reflect general town governance and services. Sam wondered how this question would inform the plan. Sandra said it would help identify the values of the public. Theo asked whether the answer options should be ranked or rated. Paul noted that ranking can be effective, as it forces respondents to prioritize. Breana added that it will tell the committee where open space falls within the public's priorities.

On question #12, Theo asked if the committee would prefer a more inspirational wording, perhaps asking respondents for their "hopes and dreams" for the new plan. Paul said that many might have big ideas, but have not been prompted to share them. He suggested that a pragmatic "suggestions or ideas" could be followed by a parenthetical "hopes and dreams." The committee liked that solution.

On question #5, Michael suggested that non-Town related social media be incorporated and offered some other revisions, such as "From social conversations."

Theo said that he had not yet heard back a follow up from the school. A meeting was going to be held with the Service Learning staff. They may have comments on the survey wording. If they do not, the survey can be launched after the next committee meeting. It will be open for one month. The survey will be publicized at Council meetings and the Town website, TV, and social media. Theo stressed the importance of personal advocacy of the committee members to their contacts to get as high a response rate as possible.

The next steps will be creating an outline for the plan, using the vision, goals, and maps to identify action items, and beginning to write the plan narrative. Theo asked the committee to consider ways to measure progress and success.

3. Other Business

There was no other business discussed.

4. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 28.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Draft minutes prepared by Andrew Clark, September 25, 2017.