



Long Range Planning Advisory Committee + (LPAC+)

Thursday, September 28, 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 6:03 PM.

1. Review of draft minutes of the September 14, 2017 meeting

Approval of the draft minutes of the September 14 meeting was tabled until the end of the meeting in anticipation of a quorum.

2. Open Space Plan discussion

Theo presented a draft outline of the plan to the committee for feedback. Nathan had provided earlier comments:

- Adding a goal that speaks to open space acquisition as a growth management tool;
- Identifying the public as playing a role in open space protection; and,
- Clarifying funding sources.

The committee liked Nathan's additions. Kurt asked whether the future role of the open space ombudsman had been clarified, and suggested that the plan reflect any changes. Theo did not know about any possible role changes and noted that Lucky and Nathan had seen the current draft language and had no comments. He suggested leaving it as is for now. Michael suggested adding a section that discussed the rationale and motivation for protecting open space. Theo will add that.

Paul suggested the plan be organized around the goals. He suggested a chapter for each goal, with background issues, followed by action items supporting that goal. The committee agreed, and suggested adding starting with an introductory chapter with the vision and history surrounding open space protection.

Kurt returned to Nathan's proposed goal. Sandra felt it was redundant. Paul suggested incorporating the language into another goal to help make that one more specific. Theo said that the proposed goal could be the link between the Open Space Plan and the Comprehensive Plan. Claudia noted that the Comprehensive Plan called for preserving open space and discouraging development in the rural areas. She wondered whether Nathan's proposal was a tool to help achieve another goal, or a goal in and of itself. Kurt said that the goals exist to achieve the vision, and he believed that the proposed goal did that. Tom wondered whether this was a hot button issue that the committee should stay away from. He felt that the new goal may seem to some to direct the Town to buy land so no one could build on it. Bob pointed to other parts of the country that are doing exactly that and are investing in open space properties for that reason. He felt that the land banking process is a primary objective of open space management. Theo suggested testing the language of the new goal in the survey, so the committee could see how the public felt about it. The committee agreed with that approach.

Theo reviewed the changes to the drafted survey questions since the last meeting. He said he had not yet heard back from the school department, but suggested moving forward. If the survey goes out soon and is open for four weeks, results can be compiled in early November.

Tom suggested adding a question asking explicitly about the importance of preserving open space. The committee agreed. Tom further suggested a question asking about whether acquisitions should continue to be made with Town funds. Paul did not agree with that, noting that the public's values and priorities will be portrayed in the other questions. The committee concurred with Paul's assessment. Theo will make these changes, and add Nathan's goal to the questions that refer to the plan's goals.

The survey will be publicized in a variety of ways, including being sent out in an email blast, and posted to the Town's website and social media channels. Theo underscored the importance of the committee members sharing the survey with friends, families, and professional networks and encouraging them to complete it and pass it on.

Theo said the next steps in the process are to make the plan text changes as discussed and check in on survey progress.

3. Review of draft minutes of the September 14, 2017 meeting

The draft minutes of the September 14 meeting were approved as written

4. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 12. The committee will not meet on October 26.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Draft minutes prepared by Andrew Clark, October 3, 2017.