



Long Range Planning Advisory Committee + (LPAC+)

Thursday, September 13, 2018
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>	-	Amanda Stearns <i>Open Space Manager</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>	-
Rich Jordan <i>Planning Board</i>	-	Breana Gersen	-	Jim Chaousis	-

The meeting began at 6:05 pm.

1. Review of Draft Minutes of August 23, 2018 Meeting

The draft minutes of the August 23, 2018 meeting were tabled as there was no quorum.

2. Review Draft Open Space Plan

Theo handed out a revised draft and explained that he had incorporated the edits from Michael Vance. He also stated that earlier in the afternoon he received additional edits from Amanda Stearns.

Sandra commented that the Open Space manager function was an important one that should continue to be filled. She noted that the draft plan assumed that and depended on it, but that nowhere was that stated explicitly. She felt that if there was no Open Space Manager, the plan would likely sit on the shelf. Not addressing that issue was a risk to her. Paul commented that this was a question as to how far the plan needed to address its execution. The committee agreed to make some edits to make its position on this clearer on pages 11 and 36.

Theo remarked that the committee had recommended a specific annual Town funding amount, but that this had not yet made its way into the plan. He will review the minutes and incorporate a specific action to that effect in the plan. The committee remembered that and was OK with it.

There was a question where the language on having no “finish line” was. Theo pointed out that this was moved to page 19.

The committee made one additional edit on page 6 and felt that that concluded its edits.

Sandra stated that she felt the committee had come up with an elegant and succinct plan, one that she was much pleased with. The other committee members concurred.

Theo will make the remaining edits and will send the final revised plan to the committee. The committee was disappointed that there was no quorum, so no formal vote could be taken. It agreed that having a deadline for members to respond to Theo was an adequate alternative.

Next, the committee reviewed the suggestions for a title and subtitle to the plan. Theo handed out suggestions that had been received from Rich, Breana, and Paul. The ideas are listed below.

- A. Falmouth Open Space Planning: Highland to the Sea
- B. Falmouth: Open Spaces and Special Places (short: “Falmouth Spaces and Places Plan”)
- C. Trails and Corridors: Protecting and Managing Falmouth’s open spaces.
- D. Keeping Falmouth Green: Protecting and Managing Falmouth’s open spaces.

Open Spaces plan – naming (handout from Paul)

Who is the target audience?

Some ideas that could/will build to better ones in discussion...

1) Residents (to internalize it)

Inspirational - *Open Spaces Plan: Keeping Maine in Falmouth*
Benefits - *Falmouth Open Space Plan: Clever, healthy, fun.*
Payback - *Falmouth Open Space Plan: Greener is more valuable*

2) Council (to champion it)

Principled - *Falmouth: Great schools, Open spaces, Judicious Management.*

3) Other Towns (to compete?)

Aspirational - *Falmouth: Greener Pastures*
Hierarchy - *Falmouth: Here the grass is always greener*
Comparative - *Falmouth: Green beats congestion*

Quirky/Memorable ;)

Falmouth Open Space Plan: “Fifty shades of green”
Falmouth Open Spaces: “Plan of Green Fables”

Paul explained the thinking on his suggestions.

The committee felt that the title should stay the same: “Falmouth Open Space Plan.” Claudia liked the idea of combining the future and the past in the subtitle. There was a discussion if “preservation” or “conservation” should be included in the title. Sandra suggested the notion of “Continuing Our Legacy.” The committee considered as a subtitle “Building Spaces for the Falmouth of Tomorrow,” but settled on “Honoring Our Legacy, Now and For Our Future.”

Sam stated that LPAC+ had been a terrific committee, with great input from LMAC and the Land Trust.

There was discussion of the next steps for the plan and how the presentation to the Council, scheduled for October 10, should be handled. Theo will prepare a brief PowerPoint presentation that Sam will present. Sam felt that there were others more knowledgeable than him to present the plan and had put a considerable amount of work into the plan, but Sandra persuaded Sam to do it as he was the Chair of the committee. Sam agreed to present the plan. The entire committee is encouraged to be at the Council meeting to help answer questions and show support.

3. Other Business

The committee discussed its next assignment, which is addressing recent growth and density concerns in Falmouth. Theo shared a resolution from the Council from April 2018 to that effect and described a possible process on how to address this assignment. It was agreed that the first public forum was key to allow people to be heard right from the outset. Paul stressed that this should not be a complaining session, but rather one that was organized to make it as productive as possible. The use of a facilitator was discussed, as well as the need for the Council to be involved in the discussions. Theo will follow up with a written description of the assignment and process and will have a review of that with the Town manager. LPAC is expected to further discuss this on October 11.

The committee discussed the lack of a quorum and failure of several committee members to notify Theo in advance. Sam will reach out to committee members.

Sandra brought up the need for new leadership on LPAC as she and Sam had been doing that for a long time. This should be a topic of discussion at an upcoming meeting.

4. Next meeting

The next LPAC meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Draft minutes prepared by Theo Holtwijk, September 17, 2018.