

Long Island Comprehensive Planning Committee  
March 16, 2021  
Minutes of the Meeting

Members present: Janice Avignon, Linda McCann, Doug McCown, Nancy Berges, Dennis McCann, Erica Papkee, Steve Hart, Peter Dolan, Nathan Johnson, Patti Papkee, Matt Purington, Beth Marchak, Alana Rich, Jane Oldfield-Spearman, Matt Byers

The meeting was called to order at 7:03. The minutes of the last meeting were emailed to all members for their review. Anyone with any comments/corrections to make should get in touch with Linda by 3/18. Otherwise they will stand as is.

Janice shared the Trello screen to orient us as to where we are within the phases. Phase 1: Prepare. Getting ready for the task. This phase was scheduled to last from January 19-February 28.

Phase 2: Discover. What is it that our extended committee wants to look at? This phase is estimated to last from March 1-August 27 and includes outreach, research, creation of questions.

Phase 3: Create. Writing the first drafts of the chapters. This phase is estimated to last from August 1-December 31

Phase 4: Socialize. Get our drafts in front of the extended community. This phase is estimated to last from January 1-March 31

Phase 5: Produce. Writing the final drafts of the chapters. This phase is estimated to take place from April 1-June 30.

Phase 6: Approve. Approval of the final product. July 1-September 30

Jane reminded us that one of the issues the last LICP committee ran into last time round was that they attempted to present their report to the town before presenting it to the state, and the final draft was not up to the required standards. Janice stated that we need to be in contact with the state on a continuous basis during the process of finalizing our draft so that does not happen again. We should have several checkpoints with the state as we move along.

Beth Marchak shared some of her notes on her process on developing the chapter on population and demographics. She reminded us that, "Writing is not an event, it is a process." From Beth, "I'm tackling the Population & Demographics chapter for the report. Here's how I'm setting up my draft working document to capture what the state wants for information, what I have for data as well as what I need for additional information. Please take a look. Hopefully it will give you some ideas about how to proceed with your chapter.

To get this process started, I copied the section of the checklist about my chapter into Word. Then I broke down each checklist question as a topic and began expanding my outline by plugging in information, data as well as questions that I need to answer. The last two pages are the data and information provided by the state for my chapter.

It is far from done. It will undergo many rewrites and updates. It does, however, help keep me

focused on what I need to do to fulfill my share of the checklist requirements. I'll save a new, hopefully neater version every couple of days as I spend more time looking at data and information supplied by the state and talk to other sources.

I have been looking at state census data. The most interesting detail so far is the state census folks expect our population to grow by 14 people between now and 2036. I'm going to look at the data and information very closely before I start asking questions of state census staffers about their methodology and assumptions.

I'm happy to help others get started.”

Janice reviewed some near term milestones she has entered into the Trello app.

1. Draft vision statement: September 10
2. Review current state of each chapter: April 9
3. Town Meeting: May 15. Opportunity to start to present information on our process in public setting
4. Draft policies and strategies for each chapter: July 15
5. Final vision: October 19
6. Submit draft chapters to committee: November 15
7. Draft plan is complete: December 31
8. Final chapters: March 15, 2022
9. Final policies and strategies: April 20, 2022
10. 2022 Town meeting: May 21, 2022
11. State approval: July 8, 2022
12. Final plan: July 30, 2022
13. Special town meeting: September 1, 2022

Peter felt that the timeline was reasonable, but he also feels that we should be sending stuff to the state now so they can give us feedback. He feels that they will want to be informed along the way. He would also like to see us assign someone to be the liaison to the state. Beth indicated that she was interested in taking on this role.

Dennis reported on his community conversations as part of the survey subgroup. He had some very productive conversations with island residents in the 60+ age groups as they came through the covid vaccination clinic. Here is his report:

The first community conversation opportunity occurred on March 13 in conjunction with the Wellness Center's second on island COVID vaccine clinic. We had the opportunity to chat with over 40 island residents (age 60+) about the next comprehensive planning report process. We asked folks what they feel are some of the challenges our community will be facing in the next 5-10 years, things they either liked or disliked about LO, and also asked if people had a wish list for things they would like to see included in the next comprehensive planning report. This is

a list of bullet points that represent the responses.

- 1) Manage people's expectations with regard to what is, and is not available on an island
- 2) Recognize the concept of "island time" as having both a positive and negative connotation.
- 3) Develop affordable housing for both young working people and older folks a. cluster housing
- 4) Maintain our school by attracting young families to the island.
- 5) Expand services like building contractors by attracting people to the island who have these skills, as well as other trade skills.
- 6) Re examine the minimum lot size for residential construction.
  - a. hard to find buildable lots
  - b. "we don't want to look like Peaks Island"
  - c. "we don't want to look like Key West, Fl."
  - d. "need to protect the groundwater supply by limiting new building"
- 7) Re examine the zoning rules with respect to commercial construction.
- 8) Address the question of sustainability of the island Elementary school.
- 9) Address road repair, especially as it applies to unpaved roads.
- 10) Address the issue of dead, fallen trees on the island as it relates to potential fire hazard.
- 11) partner with a university Forestry program to address the problem.
- 12) come up with a strategy for the overall appearance of the wharf area (old buildings)
- 13) look at commercial zoning laws, especially in light of the large parcel of real estate for sale down front.
- 14) address the need for a new Town Office
- 15) address the need for a new Fire Station
- 16) House numbers and street signs.
- 17) develop strategies for people to age in place.
- 18) expand the services provided by the Wellness Center such as Telemedicine capability
- 19) develop relationships with Maine Health, Northern Light Healthcare, Tufts Medical School, UNE Med School and Nursing Program that would enhance on island medical services.
- 20) Build a marina
- 21) Improve the transfer station (entry and exit)
- 22) Are we turning into a retirement community?
- 23) Is it time to do something else with the Conservation area?
- 24) partnerships with other islands for services?

A plan to continue these conversations was discussed and will be addressed by the survey subgroup.

Janice shared a template for community conversations that all committee members are encouraged to have with stakeholders as we move forward.

Conversation guide link:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WHbJhtrF6CjHlr28JLjj8OQNW5jdMiTPvAflhhPSSS0/e>

dit?usp=sharing

Committee members volunteered to reach out to stakeholder subgroups to have these conversations:

Jane-LICA board

Dennis and Beth-Wellness Council

Steve-Planning Board He raised the possibility of having a public meeting to talk about land use

Erica-Rec

Matt B-local business owners

Patti - Fire/Rescue and School

Committee members were surveyed about how often we needed to meet as a large group and it was decided to move to a monthly meeting format after our next meeting on April 6. Monthly meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of the month.

Janice shared the following communication chart to help guide us in the dissemination of Information:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1GS5u3TTPCGlugO72EmNI52mbVk-AnFI4rGwueYurQal/edit?usp=sharing>

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda McCann