

Long Island Comprehensive Planning Committee

October 12, 2021

Meeting Minutes

Conducted remotely by Zoom

Present:

Members: Nancy Berges, Nathan Johnson, Beth Marchak, Dennis McCann, Linda McCann, Melanie Nash, Wes Wolfertz

Guests: Joe Donovan, Tim Honey, Doug McCown

Agenda:

1. General updates
  - Update from Island Institute Fellow Melanie Nash about her activities.
  - Timeline updates
  - Comms updates
2. Public engagement outreach
  - Survey highlights
  - Upcoming Forums: Waterfront, Vision
  - Summary from Water and Natural Resources and Contractors' forums
  - Vision Workshops – Oct. 2 recap and 23 update
3. Chapter updates
4. November meeting

Minutes:

Island Fellow Updates

- Beth introduced Melanie, noting that she has several assignments including data analysis and communication with GPCOG. Melanie will be with us for two years.
- Much of her fellowship so far has been surrounding forums and public outreach and engagement to do with the comp plan.
- Data analysis and digging into the results of the community survey has been a big part so far, including its integration with the vision forums and public sharing.

Timeline Updates

- Beth welcomed attendees from the public, and briefly explained that the time for chapter writing is coming.
- She will be sending chapter leaders their outlines in order to get started.
- The data will also be handed out to chapter leaders as we organize it into what is relevant and where it should be used in the report.

Public Engagement Highlights

- Melanie presented the slides from the Oct. 3 vision workshop that had some preliminary survey highlights.
- The approximately 50 attendees joined several breakout groups. Each group produced a list of “We will” statements based on their conversations. This process, spread over two rooms at the Community Center, worked extremely well.
- Tim Nichols was the event’s facilitator. People felt heard, involved, and invested in the process through this vision workshop, he said.
- Working waterfront forum is delayed while we find a date and time that will work for stakeholders. Because this is not an open forum, it has to be a more targeted time. There have been discussions about a forum around 5 pm where people can share some thoughts. Nate feels this will be very productive.
- Beth gave an update on the land management forum led by Betsy Whitman, who was not able to attend our meeting. Betsy, a community member interested in land issues, led the Oct. 6 land management forum which attracted about 30 people.
- Linda McCann discussed the recent contractors-only forum held Oct. 3. A small group of stakeholders turned out to talk about the challenges they face working on the island. The conversation was facilitated by Vanessa Farr from GPCOG.
- One big takeaway from the contractors’ forum is there are a lot of workforce issues, including problems retaining help that impact their ability to take on jobs. They also focused on the idea that the town should offer some sort of storage space available for equipment.

#### Chapter Updates

- Outlines will be sent out to committee members who are in charge of creating a chapter for the plan.
- Those in charge of chapters will be expected to provide a status report of their work at the November committee meeting.

#### November Meeting

- Janice Avignon will be back from France to chair the November committee meeting.
- At that point, the committee will shift gears as opposed to the ‘discovery’ phase and focus on chapter writing and crafting the plan.
- After her return, Janice Avignon will share complete survey data with the select board before sharing the information with the community. There is much more to come with the data presentation.
- Notes from forums, including the contractors’ forum, should be made public especially during the chapter-writing process.
- One community member said the committee has been very successful so far, especially getting people engaged with the comprehensive plan process.