

TOWN OF ROCKLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MEETING#7
JANUARY 11, 2017

Attendees: Robert Eggleton
Tom Ellison
Sheila Shultz
Art Riegal
Manny Zangers
Lisa Lyons
Russell Budd
Peter Manning

The seventh Comprehensive Plan Meeting for Town of Rockland met at the Town Hall on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 6pm led by Robert Eggleton.

Chairman Eggleton opened the meeting with presentation of minutes from the November 30th meeting. A change of wording was suggested by Russel Budd in regards to “future goals” changed to “potential recreational use”. Also regarding hand maps for use during meetings that would cover not only trails but broadband areas. On a motion by Sheila Shultz and seconded by Tom Ellison, with all in favor, the minutes were accepted with noted changes.

An opportunity for comments from the committee was offered and Rob Eggleton briefly stated that he felt we were off to a good start for the New Year. Lisa Lyons offered to make calls to other members prior to future meetings. She stated that with more in attendance it enhances the brain storming on topics.

Peter Manning opened with discussion of Residential areas and related resources and stated that this section will start off with Table of Contents plan on the overhead screen. The evening discussion would begin with only 4 of the areas and review the idea of process and draft recommendations. Each chapter will ultimately be set up with goals. As charts were viewed and discussed, the committee agreed that it would be helpful for each member to have access to these charts. Mr. Manning agreed and will attach these charts by email to the committee. Mr. Manning stated that the 2010 plan in general has a good balance but there are areas such as Land Use section that still need to be addressed in more detail given the varied nature of the land within the Town.

A list of recommendations was given as follows:

- Identify areas served by broadband
- Pursue housing assistance
- Cultivate mixed use centers in both towns.
- Understand decisions and trends of second homeowners and other prospective buyers
- Be proactive to take advantage of change patterns such as recent Casino development
- Support niche businesses
- Build relationships with schools to develop programs (internships)
- Use of words “encourage” and “promote”

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Lisa Lyons suggested dialogue with large parcel landowners because “what happens upstream” flows down and affects everyone in its path.

Mr. Manning asked “Does the town need to do something else to preserve its rural character, and How”? It was discussed that we need to identify areas of possible development and look into conservation sub-division.

At the next meeting Russell Budd would like to go through the Community Services section as well as continue on Residential Use. He would also like to look into attaining grants to continue appearance of hamlets and properties.

A request was given again to have maps available for committee members to use.

Next meeting date was set for January 25, 2017 at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.