



Long Range Planning Advisory Committee (LPAC+)

**Thursday, April 14, 2011
Minutes**

Attendance:

Name	Present	Name	Present	Name	Present
Rebecca Casey	√	Bud French	√	Hugh Coxe	√
Paul Bergkamp	-	Kurt Klebe	-	Jim Thibodeau	√
Steve Hendry	√	Sandra Lipsey	√	Julie Motherwell	-
Rachel Reed	-	Sam Rudman	√	Steve Walker	-
Claudia King	√				

Council Liaison: -
Staff present: Theo Holtwijk
Others present: -

Sam started the meeting at 7:00 PM.

1. Discussion of Draft Survey Instrument

Sandra reviewed draft 5 of the survey.

Introductory Question

The group reviewed Paul’s comment, but agreed to keep the introductory question as written. The “Falmouth as a place to do business” will be added in the commercial development section.

Driving, Bicycling, and Walking

The group agreed to repeat Q 1 and 2 with regard to speeding, per the Police Chief’s suggestion.

The group discussed if Q15 was too similar to Q14 and should be deleted, but decided to keep both questions.

The group agreed to expand the listing of issues in Q16.

The group agreed to add a question of neighborhood connections. This is an issue that is currently encouraged by the Town, but not enforced. It would focus on bicycle/pedestrian connections versus vehicular connections. This may require another introductory statement. The group also agreed to tackle road repair as more of this responsibility is falling to the Town. This would be done in the Community Services section. Questions may include: do we spend enough; if one wants to spend more money on road repair, in which area should the Town spend less?

Town Services

The group agreed to delete “special contributions” in the introduction and replace “used” in Q1 with “interacted.” The group agreed to add Harbor Master/Town landing to the list. Theo will review this list with Nathan to make sure he is OK with it. (Note: The group did not discuss how to handle the road repair issue.) The group discussed if survey results are not due back until mid July if it still makes sense to include the full day kindergarten questions from the School Department. Theo will check with Barbara Powers on that.

Residential Development

This section had a number of comments from committee members. Theo distributed a 4-page report on compact development from 2007 that provided the most current thinking on that topic. Sandra suggested that the group “chew” on the comments made and the 2007 report and report by this coming Wednesday with any additional comments on how this section should be treated.

Town Center

There were no comments by the group on the Town Center section.

Alternative Energy and Public Wastewater Disposal

The group agreed to reverse the title and content of this section. Paul had wondered about the importance of this topic. Theo distributed two pages from the 2009 pump station report that stated the importance of a West Falmouth Sewer Master Plan. He also had re-inserted the comments from Pete Clark. The group felt that this issue was an opportunity to educate the public on a big and long term issue. Jim commented on the “daisy chain” of pump stations where if the capacity is exceeded through development one entity is burdened with the cost of fixing that. He felt that policy changes were needed.

Open Space Preservation

The group agreed with Kurt’s comment that the introduction had leading language. Market Decisions will be asked to reword that. The group agreed with testing the concept in Q4 and Q5 and will reword Q5 a bit. The group agreed in Q8 to ask separately about walking trails, bike trails, horseback riding trails and snow mobile trails.

Regional Collaboration

Sandra recommended that the five budget survey questions be repeated in this section. Theo will check this with Nathan. The group agreed to talk about “shared services” with neighboring towns and Cumberland County, instead of “interlocal and regionalization efforts.” The group liked the idea to test specific possibilities. Theo will check with Nathan on those. The group liked the idea of including One Falmouth in “shared services.” Theo will send a link where the group can find more information about One Falmouth.

Commercial Development

Much discussion followed on this section. The words “knowing it” in Q3-16 will be replaced by “recognizing that” and stated only once. The group agreed to keep Q3-9 as well as Q10-16. Jim will poll the Falmouth Economic Improvement Committee for input on this section as to what questions should be asked. Becca petitioned that the section be expanded by asking what uses people preferred in specific sections along Route 1 and 100. Most in the group

were supportive of that. Hugh stated that he was in favor of more intense and better development in the Route 1 area near Shaw's, but did not want to see development creep further north. Geographic areas are: Route 1 – north and south of Turnpike Spur. Route 100 – south of Leighton Road, between Leighton and Mountain roads, and north of Mountain Road. Jim suggested also asking for specific intersections. The group defined the following use categories: Retail-entertainment-restaurants-service, Big box retail, Professional office, and Light manufacturing.

Demographics

The group agreed to ask a question whether people worked from home and if so, what percent of their time. There was discussion whether a question on internet access should be added or not. The group agreed to do that. It was also suggested to ask a question how people get their Falmouth news. The group was OK with that. There was a suggestion to add a category “refuse to answer” to the most sensitive demographic question, but the group opted not to do that. If people do not want to answer a question, they can leave it blank. The group agreed to use the neighborhood map as is.

2. Survey Marketing Update

Claudia and Bud reviewed the marketing materials that Julie had sent along. The group offered comments on the poster text and its size. The group agreed that the small ad text could change – there will be 3 ads each for 5 weeks. The group agreed to add the two supermarkets to survey pick-up locations, if the markets permit this, and felt that with Town Hall and the library it had enough pick-up locations. Claudia also had a contact list available and will send that to Theo to forward to the group.

3. Review of Draft Minutes of February 10 and 24, and March 24, 2011

The draft minutes of February 10 and 24, and March 24, 2011 were approved as written.

4. Next Meeting

The next LPAC+ meeting will be on **Thursday April 28th at 7 PM**. The goal is to do a final review of survey draft 6 at that time.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Draft Meeting Notes by Theo Holtwijk, April 19, 2011