



Long Range Planning Advisory Committee (LPAC+)

Thursday, December 8, 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 Reed

The meeting was called to order by Sam Rudman

1. Minutes

Minutes of the October 27th meeting were approved as written.

2. Report on discussion with School Superintendent

Steve H. reported on a meeting that some LPAC+ members had with Barbara Powers and Dan O'Shea of the Falmouth School Department. The superintendent sees as the biggest need in the next 10 years the renovation of the Middle School. Approximately \$4 million will be needed for ~~that~~ that the heating system alone. The superintendent suggested to reinvest revenues from the sale of Plummer-Motz property into the schools to reduce property tax impact. The High School is currently at peak-its highest enrollment in several years. This year it is 50+ more students are enrolled in the District more this year than last year. HS-A modest decline in overall District enrollment is expected to go down over next ten few years. This likely will translate to less revenue from the State as general purpose aid is currently based on both enrollment and town property values. This means less income for the Town. There are several new programs in planning stages: STEM academy, Visual Performing Arts and International Studies. The subcommittee wants to follow up with Matt Gilbert regarding the use by community groups of meeting spaces at the schools. The superintendent expressed a wish to reinvest revenues from the sale of Plummer-Motz property into the schools to reduce property tax impact and wished for more collaboration and better communication with the Town.

LPAC+ members shared demographic data with the School. How does this affect the school planning? There is a baby boomer demographic and there are people drawn to locate in Falmouth thanks to the quality of the school system. There was also a discussion about the perception of some in the community that “the schools get everything.” The superintendent believes that a better job can be done with educating the community as to the value of the school system to the town. The superintendent ~~stated felt~~ that community programs in Cape Elizabeth, ~~for example, make a concerted effort to invite all citizens into the schools and may have some ideas for Falmouth. are more extensive and that seniors, for example, are more integrated in the community. More could be done by the schools to reach out to the community, according to the superintendent.~~

~~The re Committee was a~~ discussion ~~ed on ways to about~~ attracting students from elsewhere to attend Falmouth schools. Some minority students may not come here as they may feel that their culture is more catered to in Portland. Students who otherwise may go to Waynflete or North Yarmouth Academy may choose Falmouth as an option. Through the Casco Bay Education Alliance (CBEA), Falmouth currently allows students from SAD 51 and Yarmouth to attend classes in Falmouth and vice versa.¹

Steve H mentioned the need to provide A/C in 2nd floor of High School. This may help summer programs there as well as elongate the school year. The superintendent also ~~expects-hopes~~ that the athletic fields can be revenue producers for the town.

~~The group noted that the focus of the school discussion seemed to be on Falmouth’s needs and wants and not so much on regional coordination.~~

3. Report on discussion with Parks and Public Works Director

Becca reported on the meeting she and Claudia King had with Jay Reynolds. They discussed transportation and regional coordination. The results of the survey were also discussed. Jay commented on the recent road work as well as the condition report in the recent Transportation Plan. Storm water, erosion issues, Tree City USA and tree replacements were also discussed. Jay commented that the parks Division had been downsized. He recommended that a more formal structured volunteer trails organization could be helpful. He anticipated more trail connectivity. There was a discussion that more regionalization could create concerns by some about customer service. Jay’s hope was to maintain the current budget, have more connectivity, more open space, and more community.

4. Draft Chapter Production and Stakeholder Outreach

The group decided that a good goal would be for all draft chapters to be ready for review by LPAC+ by the end of January. Sam then worked back in the schedule.

- Theo will complete first drafts of all chapters by 12/23 (step 1).

¹ The Casco Bay Educational Alliance (CBEA) is an educational alliance of six school districts (Falmouth, Freeport, Gorham, Yarmouth, MSAD #51, and MSAD #62) committed to working together to support teacher development and effect student achievement.

- All subcommittees will have reviewed those by 1/5 (step 2).
- LPAC+ will have a meeting on 1/12.
- Step 3 and 4, having draft 2 ready for stakeholder review and doing stakeholder review need to be done by 1/26. Any resulting changes will result in draft 3.

The group decided to forego the 12/22 meeting in order to devote more time to this schedule.

The stakeholders would get two things to review: 1. the survey results and survey comments as they applied to them, and 2. the draft chapter. The core question is for stakeholders to confirm the 10 year vision that the draft contains.

Each subcommittee can decide how to get its work done. There is no requirement for a face to face meeting. But a review of draft 1 of each chapter is required, so subcommittees take ownership of each chapter.

A delegation of all three subcommittees will meet with Nathan in week of January 5th.

Regarding the local Economy chapter, there was a discussion how to get Jim and Paul connected to FEIC, FEDC, Falmouth Community Chamber, and GPEDC. Becca and Sandra expressed interest to participate in these discussions. Sandra mentioned the need to connect to Tyler Technologies and TD bank. Theo will assist in setting these discussions up.

There was an interest expressed to have someone from the Planning Department come and meet with LPAC+. This was originally suggested for 1/12 meeting, but subsequently postponed until such time when a draft land use chapter is available.

5. Next meeting

LPAC+ will meet again on January 12th at 7:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

All three subcommittees met afterwards to continue their review/stakeholder outreach work.

| Draft minutes prepared by Theo Holtwijk, December 13, 2011, [rev 1: January 11, 2012](#)