

**Wiscasset Comprehensive Plan meeting minutes - 10-21-2019, 6:00 p.m.
Wiscasset Municipal Building**

Present:

Kim Andersson
Carla Dickstein
Anne Leslie
Kevin Hardwick
Allen Tarrance
Katie Bryant
Colleen Gilliam
Jason Putnam
Terry Wood
Zachary Gray

Introductions

Review of last meeting:

We divided up tasks associated with updating “Section Six, Public Facilities and Services.”

The three major sections of the plan are these:

Part I of plan: Inventory
Part II of plan: Goals, strategies, policies
Part III of plan: Future Land Use Plan

Within those sections are subsections, and some of those also have subsections.

Kim has shared the existing inventories from the last plan. We will enter updates into a shared Google doc.

As part of his inventory of Public Facilities and Services, Terrence spoke to the **Fire Department., the Police Department, and the Ambulance Service.** They need vehicles, including a fire truck. A ladder truck would not fit into this building, however.

The radio system used for emergency services does not work well. Carla questions whether the high-speed broadband we have now could be useful.

EMS has two ambulances, both bought in 2012.

Suggestion: include info about whether we share any services with Lincoln County's emergency services.

Kevin spoke to Rick Graeth at the **Wastewater Treatment Plant**. Everything is out of date, but DEP is happy with the facility at the moment. Discharge license expires next year.

With sea-level rise coming, we need to examine this system as a whole.

There are collapsed sewer line under the new Main Street construction.

Jason spoke to Chris Cossette, head of the **Wiscasset Water Department**. He said water system is in good shape. Able to accommodate future need. Works well with other towns. Great report from April 2019, outlining their plans. Part of the Five Rivers Water District. They have an elected four-member board.

He hears that the sewer system needs attention.

Katie met with Ron Lear to talk about the **Transfer Station**. Ron provided a list of equipment along with his projected budgets for the next few years. In 2008 plan, the most significant anxiety at the Transfer Station was losing Maine Yankee revenue. Now, tipping fees have gone from \$5 a ton to \$125 a ton. In July, we had to give up single-stream. Ron has to haul stuff to a plant called Fiberight in Hampden, Maine, which recovers the clear plastic and plastic bags. It's a costly trip.

It is Important to emphasize maintenance of the Transfer Station as we go forward.

Colleen talked to the **Wiscasset School Department** and **Parks and Recreation Department**. The comp plan's school section will need updating because in 2008, we were part of the RSU 1.

There is very little in the 2008 plan for Parks and Recreation. Tennis courts, Sunken Garden, White's Island? Pier? Athletic fields? Trails? Playgrounds? Shouldn't these all be part of the plan??

Kim talked to the **Public Works and Highway Department**. We have the same number of employees as we did in 2008. Salt and sand sheds need maintenance. Equipment is, fortunately, in pretty good shape.

Question:

Where should the Maine Art Gallery, Sunken Garden, Powder House, and Scout Hall go? Anne thinks that the Maine Art Gallery, Sunken Garden, and Power House could go into **Historic and Archeological Resources** or **Scenic Resources** or both.

Question:

Where do the docks fall into this? They are an asset.

Question:

Where does the Wiscasset Public Library get funding, other than the town? The library is having a roof replacement now. How is it funded?

Comment: Wiscasset's new broadband access is handled through the library. Carla notes that we need to add broadband as public infrastructure,

Kim reads headings of Historic and Archaeological Resources.

Kim says that at this time, we are volunteer working group. Step 2 will be to form a selectmen-appointed town committee.

Carla offers to work on "Population, Housing, and Economy," including real estate trends, demographics. She will work with Zack.

Kim will reach out to the Historic Preservation Commission and citizen James Kochan for help on the Historic and Archaeological Resources section.

Anne and Kevin will review and divide up the Natural Resources section.

PROPOSED TIMELINE FOR STEP 1:

Kim would like to have us finish all inventories by the end of the year, then undertake the visioning work within calendar year of 2020.

We have \$20,000 for this fiscal year for this project.

NEXT MEETING: November 18, 6:00 p.m., Municipal Building