



Community Development Advisory Committee

Minutes - October 10, 2018

Attending:

Margaret Ryan, Nelle Ely, Evan Miller, Bob McHatton, Helen Archer, Catherine Samuels, Carmen Lone, Bob Peabody, Sue Mercer (for LRCoC).

The CDC welcomed Sue Mercer, Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce Director, and invited her to attend all future CDC meetings, with the goal of promoting a closer working relationship with the CoC.

1. Hotel Bridgton

- J. McIver's 09/26 presentation of the revised project: Encouraging that he took the advice of Historical Society, neighbors, had done due diligence, and listened to Community concerns.
- CDC to write letter of endorsement to BOS noting improvements.

2. BOS Wastewater & Streetscape Projects Workshop

- Some people still seem reluctant to approve the plans; there is a contingent that does not care about the projects. If Wastewater doesn't pass, Town will eventually have to start testing, house to house, to see which systems are failing.
- Bond issue will get a lower rate to cover all projects.
- PR effort:
 - > Town is planning to put an article in the BN every week until the vote.
 - > Postcards are important, they helped with keeping the Town Hall.
 - > CDC collaboration offered; Helen to interface with Diana Nelson of Blackfly Media.

- Two-year project, to start in Spring. Town plans to synchronize projects and coordinate with business owners; roads will be kept open. Town doesn't want to close downtown/Main St. in summer. Bridgton residents say yay or nay on all changes. No contractors hired yet.
- Water district doing work at same time? Hard to get a straight answer from them; three water commissioners; may need to dig another well.
- If only Wastewater done, only 8 feet will be paved (patched) either side of trench.
- Existing sewer line ends at Pondicherry Square; can expand the line, so that more new businesses can be located on 302, past Paris Farmer's Union.
- Processing plant: Two 10-acre sites, but not all to be used immediately; modular system allows incremental development. Five acres needed for piping system.
- Plan for improved lighting, so operating costs go down; last lighting improvements were made in 1987.
- Walking-tour people say it's hard to walk around town.
- Streetscape makes a difference. It makes people stop.
- Crosswalk areas to be narrower for safety reasons.
- Bump-outs are for better visibility when crossing.
- Plowing the bump-outs could be a problem, but they are elongated for plowing.
- High speed Internet could be installed while road is open; important for businesses, particularly remote work. Is fiber optic cable part of the project? Kennebunkport is installing broadband.

Agenda items postponed until next meeting:

- PB Marijuana Workshop
- Marketing /Feasibility Study
(Ryan Willis, USM Regional Economics, may help)
- CDC resumes