

Bridgton Community Development Advisory Committee

Minutes – November 29, 2018

Attending: Bob Peabody, Bob McHatton, Nelle Ely, Margaret Lindsey, Ursula Flaherty, Evan Miller, Nate Sunday, Helen Archer.

1. Last Meetings' Minutes

- Minutes of the CDC's meetings of November 14 were approved.

2. Select Board Report

- SB proposes forming a Public Information Committee to manage information flow to Bridgton residents as the Wastewater and Streetscape projects move forward. Starting point is the need to manage public perception and ensure consistently accurate information. New committee will be comprised of one representative from each of the other committees (CDC, PB, etc.)
- A recommendation has been made to hire a three-year contract Project Manager for the WW and Streetscape projects, to replace a CDD.
- The SB concurs with CDC's proposal to appoint liaisons to other Town committees.

3. Bridgton Hospital & Healthcare Access

- Margaret Lindsey represented the CDC at the 11/14 meeting of the Lake Region Collective Action Network (LRCAN), and reviewed her written report with the CDC. Jana Richards of LRCAN is issuing their own report of the meeting shortly. CMMC continues to communicate poorly and unclearly; too many marketing "buzz-words", and not enough concrete information regarding any specific plans they have. There are no more MDs left in Bridgton Internal Medicine; CMMC are currently recruiting temporary caregivers. The CDC agreed that this issue should remain on their Agenda until resolution to the current problems is found, and M. Lindsey and Ursula Flaherty will cooperate to ensure coverage of all related meetings for the CDC. Town Management are actively involved in promoting a resolution as well. Jana Richards has agreed to attend a CDC meeting to give a presentation on status.

An inquiry to the State AG's office determined that the availability of Emergency Medical Services is not a state legal issue.

LRCAN will hold their next meeting December 18th at 9 a.m., Municipal Building basement.

4. Town Center Walkability

Although not on the Agenda, Chuck Reneker dropped into the meeting to express concern about the walkability of downtown streets not included in the Streetscape project, which he said had been a concern of the CDC in the past. Apparently, Windham has established a fund for repairs and improvements to broken and inadequate sidewalks; could Bridgton consider a similar solution?

Town Management will look into what Windham is doing.

5. CDC Liaison to Planning Board, Land Use and Zoning, and Ordinance Committees

Nelle Ely was proposed as and agreed to become the CDC Liaison to all three of these committees.

6. Housing

Discussion centered on the need to create a more varied housing inventory in Bridgton to accommodate a broader spread of residents, and the need to use the latest technologies in doing so, for cost and environmental reasons as well as their obvious attractiveness on the market. For example, more small, affordable, solar-heated or Net Zero structures might be desirable, such as those in the development opposite the Catholic church. As CDC Liaison on Housing, Ursula Flaherty agreed to look into recent developments and Best Practices elsewhere in the region, to include Bright Built Net Zero homes, and will report back to the committee.