

TOWN OF BRUNSWICK COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE STEERING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
February 13, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fred Koerber (Co-Chair), Alison Harris, Marcy McGuire, Meghan Kissling, Larissa Darcy, Sande Updegraph (Town Council, District 4), Steve Weems (Town Council, District 7), Catherine Ferdinand, Emilie Schmidt Howell (Chair), Steve Walker

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lisa Trombley

STAFF PRESENT: Julie Erdman, Director of Planning and Development; Jimmy Dealaman, Principal Planner

CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Vanessa Farr and Ben Meader from Haley Ward

Vice Chair Koerber called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and called the roll. There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Correspondence:

Vice Chair Koerber read correspondence into the record, including:

- A note from Catherine Ferdinand which will be addressed later under Bowdoin Housing and Real Estate
- A note from Chair Emilie Schmidt about a) a meeting she, Julie Erdman, and Jimmy Dealaman had with Ben and Vanessa from Haley Ward about the PlanBrunswick website migration and b) a meeting with Chair Schmidt, Julie Erdman, and Representative Dan Ankeles about questions related to L.D. 2003 and related laws. Answers to those questions will be shared with the steering committee in the future.
- A note from Steve Weems suggesting that the mapping exercise that will be conducted is better done with everyone in the room. This did not seem possible to Chair Schmidt due to logistical and scheduling concerns.
- A note from Ben Meader with guidance for the mapping exercise.
- A note from Steve Walker that he has a conflicting meeting and will hopefully join later.
- A note from Chair Emilie Schmidt that she is mid travel and will try to join via Zoom later on.

Public Comment:

No public comment was provided.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from November 7, 2024 were approved

Larissa Darcy

Second Catherine Ferdinand

Carried, six in favor, one abstention

Status Update from Haley Ward:

Vanessa Farr updated the Committee on the work Haley Ward has been doing in preparation for the charette. She delivered a presentation on centers and placetypes. Key takeaways from the presentation:

- Some placetypes include Rural Crossroads, Rural Hamlets, Villages, Downtowns/Main Streets, and Suburban Corridors. In Brunswick lower Maine Street is an example of a Downtown, and

Cook's Corner is an example of a Suburban Corridor. Neighborhood Centers may also exist inside plactypes.

- ¼ Mile Pedestrian Shed (Ped Shed) is used as a framework for walkability.
- During the mapping activity, you can label a development goal for a location as protect, enhance, or transform. This data will guide Haley Ward in the drawing and design work they do around different areas.

Ben Meader provided a lesson on how the computer program to be used in the mapping exercise works. Vanessa Farr went over the draft schedule for the charrette 2/27-3/2. Adjustments were made to the schedule to accommodate the committee.

Bowdoin Housing and Real Estate:

Catherine Ferdinand responded to questions raised at the previous meeting about Bowdoin Housing policies. The gist of her clarification was that Bowdoin enrollment is not increasing, and that though there was a period where there were around 200 Bowdoin students living off campus, that was largely due to the quality of available on-campus housing and is no longer the case as a result of improvements to on-campus housing.

Motion to Adjourn:

Larissa Darcy

Second Catherine Ferdinand

Unanimous

NEXT MEETING: March 6, 20245 6:30 PM