Town of West Bath
Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 27, 2022

Comp Plan Committee:
David Hennessey, Chair
Bob Weir, Vice Chair
Sandra Basgall
Paul Coombs
Darlene Estabrook - absent
Leah Zartarian

Town Staff: Kristine Poland, Town Administrator

Select Board: Suzanne Andresen

Consultant: Max Johnstone, MCOG

I. Call to Order **at 6:00 pm.**

II. Attendance and establishment of Quorum: **a quorum was determined.**

III. Pledge of Allegiance: **recited.**

IV. Approval of Minutes: **none.**

V. Committee Comments: **none.**

VI. Business Items:

1. **Update and review of Marine Resources plan section:**
   Johnstone provided a draft of the Marine Resources section for review. Since the "Background" section is superseded by the narrative, a single background paragraph will be provided. "Marine Flora and Fauna" and "Local Marine Habitats" will be retained. Basgall recommended that marine flora and fauna be listed in order of economic importance or other logical order.
   Johnstone will obtain statistics from the State of Maine (highlighted sections), including rockweed and seaweed harvesting data if available.
   Under "Navigability", the words "bridge at the New Meadows Inn" will be removed. Reference will be made instead to the "State Road bridge".
   All references to "Dam Cove" will be removed. Access points will be listed in the same order throughout the section.
   The number of parking spaces listed under "Marine Access" will be verified and corrected.
   Under "Marine Facilities and Marine Dependent Sites", BFC Marine is now in Woolwich. Cundy's Harbor and Sebasco were noted as the nearest pump-out facilities.
   Under "Anchorages and Moorings", the number of anchorages and mooring sites are highlighted and will be updated. "Crowding in other parts of West Bath's" will be changed to "Crowding in West Bath waters". The second paragraph which references the New Meadows River Watershed Project will be deleted.

Under “Marine (Economic) Resources”, the first paragraph will be removed. The final paragraph before Table 3-1 will also be eliminated. Tables 3-2 and 3-3 will be removed. The remaining highlighted areas will be revised for clarity. The annual economic value of clamming may be included if the state can provide the data.
Artificial fertilizer runoff should be included under “Marine Hazards”.
Under “Trends”, Johnstone will verify the licensing data. The last sentence under “Town Marine Resources Board” will be removed. Sentences referencing seedlings and references to “Merritt Island” and “Back Cove” will be removed. The number of remaining wastewater overboard discharge systems will be verified.
Under “Analysis/Issues” the paragraph referencing “Recreation watercraft owners” will be removed.
In the second paragraph under “Planning Implications For Marine Resources”, the reference to limiting harvesting will be revised. The last sentence of the paragraph will be removed in its entirety.
The “Objective” will be changed to “To study and [oversee] aquaculture farms in accordance with Department of Marine Resources standards”.

2. **Update and review of Economy plan section:**
   Johnstone provided a draft of the Economy section for review.
   The reference to “7,000 workers” in the second paragraph under “Background” will be verified. The reference to the “Brunswick Labor Market Area” is correct.
   Under “Largest Employers [Within West Bath]”, “West Bath School” will be changed to “the Town of West Bath including West Bath School”. The “Largest Employers” section will be reviewed for accuracy.
   The Kennebec Estuary Land Trust will be added to “Regional Groups and Plans”.
   The section will be reviewed throughout to double check figures and to ensure consistency.
   Under “Trends”, the fourth paragraph will be revised. In the fifth paragraph, “Home Occupations” will be described as a “growing opportunity” rather than a “growing field”.
   An explanation of “home occupation” and “work from home” will be added.
   In the sixth paragraph, the word “been” will be removed in the first sentence.
   The paragraph referencing aquaculture under “Analysis/Issues” will be removed.
   In the final paragraph, the reference to “Mid-Coast Maine” will be retained, however the paragraph will be re-worked.
   The committee would like to keep Table 2-6. Johnstone will see what he can obtain for data.
3. **Outline next steps:**
   The next meeting will be Monday July 11th at 6 pm at the Town Hall.
4. **August meeting dates:**
   The committee agreed to meet Monday August 8th and Monday August 22nd at the Town Hall.

VII. **Public Comment:** None.

VIII. Adjournment: **motion to adjourn at 8:05 pm.**