

**CITY OF BREWER
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
DECEMBER 10, 2012**

Rich Rothe called the meeting to order at the Brewer City Hall Council Chambers at 9:30 a.m.

The following were in attendance:

Kevin Birch	Present
Allen Campbell	Present
Jim Donnelly	Present
Michael Fitzpatrick	Present
Nicole Gogan	Present
Kevin Gresser	Present
David Hanna	Present
Frank Higgins	Present
Linda Johns	Present
D'arcy Main-Boyington	Absent
Janet McIntosh	Present
Daniel O'Connell	Present
Andrew Varisco	Present
 Consultant Rich Rothe	 Present

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Introductions were made. L. Johns handed out notebooks containing the 1995 Comprehensive Plan and other information.

R. Rothe gave an overview of municipal comprehensive plans and their state regulations.

The Committee decided to have the Consultant and City Staff members prepare information (such as inventory) in advance so that the Committee can concentrate on strategies, goals, and policies. The information prepared in advance should be sent out to the Committee members in advance of the meeting so that it can be discussed and/or amended at the meeting.

The Committee discussed the composition of the Committee. J. Donnelly made a motion to have everyone on the Committee vote even if they are not a Brewer resident. J. McIntosh seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Committee discussed quorums for holding a meeting, for voting, and perhaps a high quorum for the final vote on the recommendation of the entire plan. It was decided that 1) there would not be a quorum required to hold a meeting and the decision to cancel the meeting would be left to the Chair or acting

Chair; and 2) that a quorum of 6 is required to vote. The decision of a higher quorum for the final plan vote will be discussed again at a later meeting.

The draft ground rules were discussed. It was agreed upon that Committee members are expected to be prepared for the meetings. J. McIntosh made a motion to accept and use the ground rules as printed. J. Donnelly seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

J. Donnelly made a motion for Allen Campbell to be Committee Chair. F. Higgins seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

J. Donnelly made a motion for Janet McIntosh to be Committee Vice Chair. D. O'Connell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion took place on the frequency and date/times of future Committee meetings. The Committee decided to meet twice a month on the second and fourth Mondays of the month from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Brewer City Hall Council Chambers. Due to the upcoming holidays, the next meeting is scheduled for January 14th.

The Committee began work on the "vision statement". The Committee decided to create a vision statement and then take that to the public for their input. The vision statement contained in the 1995 Comprehensive Plan was reviewed followed by their comments and personal opinion on the City. Comments included the following:

- The vision statement is still valid and captures the character of Brewer;
- Should include: respect and promote historic heritage, natural resources, and adequate affordable housing;
- The entire vision statement should be made more current, businesses are investing in the community;
- Perhaps not use the "small town atmosphere" buzz word but include a strong community involvement. "Community of Caring" as used by the School Dept and the City Council;
- Brewer has a huge volunteer component;
- Brewer has beautiful neighborhoods, walks, and river; Naturally beautiful; recreation opportunities;
- People feel safe walking;
- Business friendly and business sector are growing yet the residential neighborhoods have the residential feel;
- The City is nimble;
- Good schools;
- Good cooperation between what businesses want and residents need. City Staff uses creativity and cooperation;
- Brewer is a regional player, such as Founding Partnership in the new Cross Insurance Center and the addition of the Cancer Care of Maine facility;
- This region is going to grow;
- Investments in community assets.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.