

**CITY OF BREWER  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2013**

Vice Chairman McIntosh called the meeting to order at the Brewer City Hall Council Chambers at 8:07 a.m.

The following were in attendance:

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

Minutes of the September 9, 2013 Committee meeting were unanimously approved as written.

Transportation Goals, Policies, Strategies. Rich noted the new material since the last meeting is underlined. The Committee discussed the following:

- Strategy #2C – Responsibility should be City Council, Code Officer, and Sign Committee.

Water Resources Goals, Policies, Strategies. Rich explained this draft document is based on discussions from the last meeting. The Committee discussed the following comments:

- Should Homeland Security item be included in this section and the water supply section? Staff to check on requirements for water systems.
- The Bangor/Brewer water line interconnect on Route 9 in Eddington was constructed with Homeland Security funding.

Natural Resources Inventory: Rich noted the terminology is a bit confusing as the State looks at water resources and natural resources separately. This section is primarily on plants and wildlife.

- What is the definition of agriculture?
- The fields on Eastern Avenue (opposite the end of I-395) are usually used for growing crops.
- The insurance industry defines a “Country Estate” as having up to 10 chickens, 5 pigs, and 3 large animals.
- Brewer has many “hobby” level farming and agriculture.
- Brewer is not considered an agricultural community and may be even less in the future. City ordinances do not encourage the keeping of animals.
- The City is becoming a commercial center; that should be reflected in the plan.
- Community gardens are a great idea especially for dense residential areas.
- The Master Gardner program at UMaine involves community service projects. A Master Gardner currently plants and maintains the flower gardens at the Wilson St/State St triangle and also at Centennial Park on South Main Street next to I-395. Another Master Gardner plants and maintains the Children’s Garden.
- Most farmland soils in Brewer are not utilized for farming.
- Should aquaculture be included? Eels and elvers caught in the river are sold commercially.
- The quality of the water in the Penobscot River is improving.
- Atlantic Salmon fishery was bad this year but last year was the best.
- Atlantic Salmon have been documented by UMaine to be in the Sedgeunkedunk Stream since the dam was removed. Not shown on the Beginning with Habitat maps.
- Fish have been stocked in several of the lakes surrounding Brewer.
- Old logs in the river could be a source of pollution and hold pollutants.
- Need to review and possibly amend shoreland zoning requirements in Brewer.
- Vernal pool regulations changing.
- Deer wintering areas can change. There are no regulations, mapped for more awareness.
- There are no regulations on undeveloped habitat blocks. Mapped for awareness.
- Natural Resources analysis question 4 – Brewer Stormwater Group should be the Bangor Area Stormwater Group.
- Marine analysis question 9 – Remove “just” in just below the bridge.
- Marine analysis question 10 – Add new Penobscot Landing Trail along the river, the Children’s Garden, and Centennial Park. Centennial Park.

Natural Resources Goals, Policies, Strategies: The Committee discussed the goals/policies/strategies from the 1995 Comp Plan and made the following comments:

- Open space strategies – #1: Explore incentive options; #2: Brewer Land Trust was created; #3: Covered in other sections. Cross reference the Recreation goals, policies, strategies.
- Buffer strips – Covered in other sections; remove from this section.
- Watershed mgt - Covered in other sections; remove from this section.
- Wetland banking – This concept is no longer considered by federal and state agencies. The Brewer Land Trust works with developers on wetland mitigation plans. Remove from this section.
- Wetlands education – Continue to provide. Sherwood Forest is located near the new Brewer Community School and is used as an outdoor classroom. Bird boxes are being installed, with the

assistance of the Brewer Land Trust, at the conservation land off Lambert Road. The Bangor Area Stormwater Group has an educational booth at most regional events.

- Forest Management – There are probably no City-owned properties that would be suitable for commercial forestry, keep strategies for publicizing Tree Growth and Farm and Open Space.
- Forest mgt education – The Brewer Land Trust is working on tree name plaques for trees at Sherwood Forest. There are several regional locations for forest education including Leonard's Mill and the Bangor City Forest Bog Walk.
- Other regional natural resources educational entities include the Children's Garden, Page Farm at UMaine, Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery, and the Penobscot Riverkeepers.

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Rich and Linda will prepare updated copies of the revised documents as discussed at this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.