



Local Comprehensive plan committee
Meeting minutes for Sept. 20, 2021

Committee members attending: Christopher Clark, chairman, Mara Glatzel, Claudia Tuckey, Susan Areson, Select Board representative, Steven Sollog, Planning Board representative

Absent: Ellery Althaus, Eric Jansen

Truro staff/consultant attending: Barbara Huggins Carboni, town planner/land use counsel; Sharon Rooney, LCPC consultant; Darrin Tangeman, town manager; Kelly Clark, assistant town manager

Others attending: Bob Panessiti, representing the Economic Development Committee; Kevin Grunwald, chair of the Housing Authority

Attachments: Draft survey questions from Sharon Rooney; Housing Authority questions submitted by Kevin Grunwald

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. Planner Carboni read instructions on how the public can participate in the remote meeting, which was being live-streamed on Truro TV Channel 18.

The group began its review of the draft survey questions offered by consultant Rooney. Planner Carboni explained that the goal is to put a notice in with the October tax bills directing people to the online survey. The survey also will be publicized through the Truro Talks newsletter. Members offered other venues for publicizing the survey through newsletters from other town departments (COA, library), the business community and citizen groups.

Consultant Rooney said the goal would be to have 20-25 questions total. She asked about reaching those who cannot do online surveys. Assistant Town Manager Clark said that paper copies will be made available. She said outreach will be done through the school -- to capture all grades and families with younger children in daycare programs or at home. Member Areson suggested having volunteers at the Community Center who can help people fill out the survey.

Member Glatzel raised her earlier suggestion of providing incentives to those who fill out the survey, perhaps gift cards to local businesses.

Discussion of the specific questions included:

- Panessiti suggested eliminating Question 3 (how long lived in Truro) because Questions 4 and 5 cover that topic in better detail.
- Member Glatzel asked for more of a breakdown in the age-group categories-- smaller age ranges.
- Member Tuckey suggested having respondents check all boxes that apply in the questions that offer multiple choices.
- Panessiti suggested including "access to health care" in the issue-specific questions.

- Member Areson expressed concern about loaded language in some of the questions and choices that might lead people to respond in a certain way. One example would be to use "availability of" instead of "lack of." She suggested breaking into two the environment / climate change mitigation and adaptation, energy. She suggested adding issue topics on: building regulations, water resources, broadband access, influx of summer visitors, high number of transient rentals.
- Members mainly disagreed with a suggestion by Areson to rate or prioritize the issues listed. Member Glatzel suggested possibly asking respondents to choose their top three.

Member Sollog expressed concern that the entire survey is problematic; that it will elicit the answers that we seek. He thinks that offering incentives to complete the survey will skew the data.

Chair Clark endorsed the idea of including questions from the LCPC, Housing Authority and Walsh Property Planning Committee on one survey -- to serve the needs of multiple groups seeking some of the same information.

The committee reviewed questions from the Housing Authority presented by Grunwald. Members agreed that the questions are on target and could be worked into the survey, which already includes some questions related to housing.

Planner Carboni said she would send members the questions submitted by the Walsh committee for members to review at the next meeting. Members agreed to meet early next week at a time to be confirmed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Areson

