



# Municipal Office, Town of Bristol, Maine

P. O. Box 339 Bristol, Maine 04539

Telephone (207) 563-5270 Fax (207) 563-6103

[www.bristolmaine.org](http://www.bristolmaine.org)

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**Comprehensive Plan –  
Governance and Regional Cooperation Subcommittee  
MINUTES  
Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at 8:30 a.m.  
Town Office**

**Present:** Jamie Doherty, Brittany Gill, Pat Jennings, Dan Sullivan (by phone)

**Also Present:** Chris Hall (Town Administrator)

Discussion on mission. AA suggested that we stick to regional cooperation left us confused. The outcome of our discussion is summarized below:

In comparison to other Sub-C, e.g., *Town Government, Energy Services, Transfer Station*, which by the nature of their work will focus on operational issues, we should take the strategic view of the town itself along with its relationships with other nearby towns.

We have already observed areas of where there is potential for greater regional cooperation. Likewise, we have also noticed that the governance structure of the town might be overly complicated with numerous boards and now full-time staff in several critical positions that at one time in the past were all voluntary; in some cases, people are operating without the best coordination.

By taking the strategic view we can:

- 1) formally identify these and other issues/opportunities.
- 2) suggest a scope of work that could be used later by any follow-on committee or commission that would have a very focused mission for developing a plan in response to what we identify.
- 3) we can allude to possible outcomes that the follow-on work of others might suggest.
- 4) we have no obligation to produce any plan but by doing our work we can set the stage for others to do so later.

We took note that the town population is approaching 4000. At this level a whole series of improved services will be required.

We reminded ourselves that we have made good list of issues/opportunities which are listed in earlier notes.

We need to hurry to respond to need for questions in the survey from our sub-C. JD will send out his drafts for review and additions by the group.

JD will develop a framework we can use to start a working draft more or less following 2002 plan. BG will fill in housing and social services, PJ on regional planning.

Next meeting: Forth Wednesday, September 22, 8:30 Town Hall.