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Comprehensive Plan – Housing Subcommittee Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. Ellingwood Information Center

Parks/Recreation Subcommittee Minutes 7/29/2021

Meeting place: Ellingwood from 6:30- 8:00

Present Rob Davidson, Richard Francis, Brittany Gill, RoseAnne Holladay

1. The minutes meeting of the 1 July were accepted.
The Committee was sad to lose Peter Fischer as a member.
2. We began an update of Data Acquisition:
RoseAnne Holladay explained the data she had found on the Maine Housing website among others and, from her work with the Population Subcommittee, the demographic data from the Census. She was concerned by the Margin of Error for most parts of the data, and it was agreed that we would seek other sources to confirm them. She noted that the figures she had were from 2018 and suggested we should complete our collection and begin our analysis using these figures as tools and insert new figures when they become available.
We discussed the letter of Inconsistency and found that we would be able to answer all the questions.

Rob Davidson shared several maps showing the growth of the town since the early part of the 20th C up to 2007 and proposed we update them using Building Permits. This is a specialist job.

Brittany Gill reported on several organizations that offered Affordable Housing and urged us to consider further investigation.

Richard Francis reported initial findings from the Maine Association of Realtors. We may wish to consult local realtors re lettings etc.

We agreed to place all this data and new findings on the Housing Folder created by Brittany that is to be available on the Housing Subcommittee's tab on the Committee website. We will let the Subcommittee's members know of new information by email.
We lamented the difficulty of access to the site and the lack of communication about new data.
3. We briefly discussed how to analyze and present data in the final Plan document. Brittany suggested adding illustrative 'stories' alongside the text.
We were anxious to show needs in the community beyond the bare data.

4. We discussed Alfred Ajami's email concerning Bristol's unlikely acceptance as a site for affordable housing support from the State because it is not a service center and does not have a sewer. Water supply and quality assessments were also needed, and we would consult the relevant Subcommittees.
5. Date of Next Meeting.

We agreed that we would not meet in August unless there was substantial new data to discuss, (Richard Francis will call if needed). We also discussed whether it would be more convenient to meet in the mornings and will be in contact in late August to decide a time and venue.