

**Planning Board Masterplan Subcommittees Meeting
June 4, 2024, 6:30pm Town Offices
Meeting Notes**

Attendees:

Charlie Moreno, Planning Board Member
Susan Arnold, Planning Board Alternate
Phil Auger, Planning Board Chair, Bow Lake Subcommittee, Natural Resources Subcommittee
Claire Murdaugh, Community & Recreation Center Subcommittee
Bob Bennet, Bow Lake Subcommittee
Sue Higgens, Bow Lake Subcommittee
Mimi Jost, Green Subcommittee
Susan Ryan, Arts & Events Council Subcommittee

Charlie Moreno called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Following introductions of those present, Charlie asked for each committee represented to provide a brief update of activities, concerns, and/or questions.

Natural Resources (Phil Auger)

1. Considering an interactive web-based platform (Story Map) for inventory to update 2005 BearPaw inventory. Story Map format allows for various filters and layers for presenting information, as well as videos and sound. A Strafford "Story Map" could be a marketing and communications tool as well.
2. Need to bring ideas to Planning Board, Selectman, Conservation Commission, and discuss funding needs.
3. Next NR Subcommittee meeting is Sept. 10th.

Community & Recreation Center (Claire Murdaugh)

1. Subcommittee is gathering information and doing research, as well as creating a wish list.
2. Added "Recreation" to Subcommittee name to ensure clarity (not trying to duplicate the Grange, for example)
3. Thinking about making a presentation at the 2025 Town Meeting (need to discuss further).
4. Staying in close contact with Library and their plans for possible expansion to ensure synergy not duplication.
5. Looking at possible locations and getting preliminary building quotes.
(Please funnel all contacts about possible building land through Phil Auger)
6. Next subcommittee meeting will be in the fall.

Arts Council (Susan Ryan)

1. There are lots of ideas but no funding to implement them.
2. Using Strafford Calendar and Town FB page to raise awareness.
3. Planning for July 6th *BowLakeAPalooza* musical event around the lake with audience access by boat only. Currently four acts have signed up, looking

for two more. *(Can't use dam area because of insurance issues; talk with Deputy Fire Chief about event; complete Town event application form)*

4. Offering an "artists' training" in how to sell and promote your products online. Will be held at Kaitlin Whitcher's office midweek near the end of August.
5. Designing a logo for the Arts Council *(need to run logo by Charlie and Susan before finalizing)*.
6. Thinking about fundraising through raffles, grants *(Come to Planning Board to discuss budget needs as it will come under the PB budget)*

Bow Lake (Sue Higgins)

1. Focusing on water quality concerns.
2. Met with Northwood Lake Association (Norman Royce) about their activities: milfoil removal, research on lakefront septic systems, definitions (river versus watershed), environmental engineering firm employed to assist.
3. Using FB to educate and inform property owners about concerns: septic, fertilizer. Leads to cyanobacteria blooms—current advisory posted and bloom is spreading. Water temps are very warm for this time of year. Culvert into lake from Whig Hill, another possible contributor. Stormwater runoff.
4. Water quality reports by UNH are available at the Library.
5. If we were defined as a watershed it would open up grant/funding opportunities—this could be a longer-term plan with payback over time.

Green Committee (Mimi Jost)

1. Subcommittee meets monthly.
2. Recommending aggregated power purchase for Town through Community Power Coalition of NH (versus Standard Energy). Meeting with the Select Board at the end of June to discuss this recommendation.
3. Also looking at solid waste issues—Hammond Brown attended a NERRA conference to learn more.

Next meeting of Masterplan Subcommittees is September 24th, 6:30pm at Town Offices