

Town of Candia

HOP Steering Committee

Thursday, October 19, 2023

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Mark Chalbeck, Carla Penfield, Pattie Davis, Judith Szot, Melissa Madden, Anne Lacey, Brian Sargent, Sarah Sargent, Wendy Ducharme

Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission Staff: Cameron Prolman, Tammy Zamoyski

Carla Penfield called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm. Melissa Madden made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 28 meeting and Anne Lacey seconded the motion. The committee approved the minutes.

Cameron Prolman asked for feedback about the community survey. In response to questions from Committee members, he clarified that the purpose of the community housing survey is to collect data that people on a future master plan committee will use to supplement the plan.

The Committee discussed the questions on the survey and changes that should be made. In addition to typos, wording changes, and the inclusion of tiny houses and assisted living in the housing options, the Committee debated the best way to solicit opinions on affordable housing. The Committee suggested removing the term “affordable housing” from Question 9 and adding a question “What do you consider affordable for housing?” along with price ranges. Cameron will come to the next meeting with a few additional survey questions around affordability. Pattie Davis noted that it is also important to include a question about the characteristics of the household of the respondent – i.e. single, married with family, empty nester, multi-generational etc.

The Committee discussed adding language to make the survey more educational. Judith Szot suggested that questions could be made more informative. Brian Sargent highlighted that question 13 could help educate people about what is impacting housing affordability in Candia. Cameron emphasized that opportunities for education could come when the results of the survey are reported out various events.

The Committee briefly discussed ways to publicize the survey. Carla pointed to the two Candia Facebook pages as essential ways to get the word out. Cameron said that Facebook posts will be able to link to a page on the Candia website dedicated to the housing survey.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, November 9 at 2:30 pm.

Carla proposed that the meeting be adjourned, and Melissa seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Wendy Ducharme*