

Pownal Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting

January 8, 2019
6:30 – 8:00pm @ Mallett Hall
DeWitt Room

Present: Kathy Hogue, Marcia Bowen, Joan Mueller, Susan Peters, Russ Schmidt, Christine Watson, Coren Wheeler, Jon Morris, Heidi Curry,

The meeting was called to order at 6:32.

1. **Minutes:** The minutes of December 11, 2018 were approved as written.
2. **Finances / Susan:** Susan had nothing new to report.
3. **Continue review process for survey.** There was discussion about services for older adults, and should it be expanded to include other services such as recreation, teen services, better school transportation (especially late bus for sports events), elder transportation, etc. Costs could be shared with Durham/Freeport. There was discussion about needs of different ages and the survey was adjusted to accommodate more age classes. There was discussion about transportation including bike paths to school but would they be safe given speed and distracted driving.
4. There was discussion about the Pownal Water Supply. Could it be used for other needs for perhaps Town Center. The question needs to be asked about a Town Center as well. Jon brought up the topic of solar energy to reduce the electric costs for the Town. PES is doing its own solar plant. It's likely in the future that towns will be called upon to minimize their carbon footprint. There was also discussion about the maintenance of gravel roads, which have been ditched down to marine clay. No more ditching is possible, so funds need to be devoted to maintain them as gravel roads, pave them, or have them continue to be in terrible shape. We are actually out of compliance with DIFW/DEP regulations because of the amount of gravel deposited in streams. We have the possibility of five fishable brook trout streams if we could remove/control gravel. Is it the responsibility of the Comprehensive Plan to bring this question forward? Clean up could bring in support from DIFW and other organizations. But Heidi reminded us that we are fact finding organization but not political. Russ felt that this survey is one of the few ways that we can solicit /educate townspeople since they don't attend meetings. Ultimately the Capital Improvement committee will need to develop a road maintenance plan and bring it to Town meeting. Jon also added that we should discuss Airbnb's, which is in the survey.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Marcia Bowen

Committee Members:

*Marcia Bowen, Heidi Curry, Adam Haynes, Kathy Hogue (Chair), Jon Morris (Selectman),
Joan Mueller, Susan Peters, Russ Schmidt, Christine Watson, Coren Wheeler*