

Winthrop Planning Committee Meeting  
March 9, 2009

Attendance:

Priscilla Milness (Owner of Subway)  
Kristin Bartlett  
Cornell Knight  
Phil Locashio  
Jack Kaiser  
Sarah Fuller  
Mick Czado  
Patrice Putman  
Chris Huck  
Harold Burnett  
Andy Wess  
John Carpenter  
Brian Ketchen  
Jim Norris  
John Callinah

The Committee agreed that while the Monitoring Strategy was never implemented and there was the sense that this had been in large part a “sit on the shelve Plan” in fact a great many of the 1996 recommendations have been implemented either fully or significantly. Please note the many 3s and 4s set out in the evaluation below.

Erin Labbe, community member, was kind enough to offer to take minutes.

7:00pm Meeting opens

The committee introduces informal rating scale to best determine progress for each Goal/ Recommendation as listed in the 1996 Comprehensive Plan. **The 1996 Comprehensive Plan has been scanned into the Winthrop Town website. Go to [www.Winthropmaine.org](http://www.Winthropmaine.org) then to Ordinances then to 1996 Comprehensive Plan. Page and Recommendation references below all refer to the 1996 Plan.**

Scale 0-4 Goals and Recommendations, 1996 to current:

- 0) Not in progress/No longer relevant
- 1) No longer in motion
- 2) Moderately in motion
- 3) Strong progress/ near completion
- 4) Completed project (does not mean that there is not more that can be done)

Monitoring Strategy, Pg. 5— (0)

- A committee was selected, but never implemented. Lack of long-term commitment
- Is a tracking committee necessary? Or is it the role of the Town Council, Town Manager and (all) local municipalities to cross reference?
- How do we create a comprehensive plan that functions more as a working document rather than a shelved report?
- Develop a process, rather than a committee of how the town council can use/ implement the report

GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, Pgs 9- 18

Archaeological and Historical Records—

- Presented as a goal, as partially commissioned by state ordinances
- Has historical interest value
- Opportunity to improve town marketability

- Talk to Dan Cook, town historian re: status
  1. (1)
  2. (4)
  3. (2)
  4. (2) Some town cataloging has been completed, i.e. cemetery records. Located at town office
  5. (2)
  6. (2)
  7. (2) Talk to Linda McKee, Winthrop High teach re: status

#### Economic Development—

1. (4) Town is online and has a live website. Chamber has their own website, as well as a recently updated brochure available at town office
2. (4)
3. (2) Town Manager has met frequently with Maine & Company, other developers. Developer and Tourism outreach can be improved
4. (3)
5. (4) Village is a vital downtown to Winthrop and neighboring towns. Infrastructure is in place. Existing potential, room for improvement at a service center as well as economic center. Consideration for additional parking
6. (3) The outreach is there but can be improved to have a better success rate of attracting appropriate business
7. (4) Referenced Beth Young's report. Focused on access management
8. (4)
9. (0) WDDC officially dissolved. Chamber and WKEI now bear responsibilities/concerns
10. (4) Tiffs, Pine Tree Zone. Opportunities
11. (4) Amy, employed as the economic development facilitator for the Kennebec region
12. (4) There is no database, but instead there are point of interest contacts based on services that can be easily reached. More readily accessible now. i.e. KVCOG, EDA, U.S. Dept of Agriculture
13. (3) Attempted at 50% for codes (during the grant writing period). A sign code in place for newly established businesses
14. (3) Website, brochures, etc.

#### Housing Characteristics—

- Obtain an updated copy of the state's requirements for planning for cross reference, as to how to list recommendations, timelines, etc.
  1. (4) Subdivision ordinances are periodically reviewed
  2. (4) Contact planning board member for reference and presence on planning committee
  3. (4)
  4. (4) Reconsider how strict the town should be

#### Natural Resources—

- Reference: current subdivision zoning ordinances. Scenic Vistas (pg 51) Tower provisions. Sprawl
  1. (3) ongoing
  2. (3) ongoing
  3. (3) ongoing

#### Geology, Soils, Topography—

1. (0)

#### Surface Water—

1. (4)
  2. (4) Friends of Cobbossee, boat inspections
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1. (0)
  2. (0)
  3. (3) Cobbossee Watershed publishes report
  4. (3) Street Sweeper. Watershed actively monitors runoff

#### Ground Water—

1. (4) Friends of Cobbossee monitors. Reference their ground water requirements, activities
2. (4)

#### Wetlands—

1. (4)

#### Wildlife Habitat—

1. (4) Not a town's responsibility. Dept. Fish & Wildlife monitors. 1996 included in report after they did not consider this to be actively addressed by the Dept.
2. (4)

#### Scenic Resources—

1. (1)
2. (1) Trail census project
3. (3) Surveys exist of publicly owned parcels, but not private. Consider GoogleEarth as a resource. Reference 'Beginning with Habitat' land areas in town (roadless). Winthrop has not done this, however the information is readily available.

#### Transportation—

1. (4) Highland Avenue locally. DOT responsibility
2. (3) 202 Study will alert DOT of traffic need changes projected over the next 20 years. MDOT also references local plans for infrastructure needs. Road Service Management software provided analysis of Winthrop roads. Include 133, 17 all other roads (conditions) that feed into 202
3. (3/4) Grant money for Apple Farm Crossing path, CDBG Sidewalk, Kennebec Bank projects all used enhancement money.
4. (4) minor maintenance is reqd. periodically and completed (ongoing) located near Full Court Deli.

#### Public Facilities—

1. (4)
2. (4)

#### Public Safety—

1. (4) Scheduled for '09 completion!!

2. (3) Line exists in budget for community policing. Program in place “Explorers” Positive reaction for relationship

Solid Waste—

1. (4) Very strong in households and businesses. Positive reaction for programs in place.

Public Works—

1. (4) Storm Water study in 1997-1998. Culverts are replaced steadily, ditching work with town’s excavator, use of plastic pipe has improved process
2. (2) Drainage on Bowdoin St, Morton St. Projects are WIP
3. (2) Salt shed has been built, but not a sand shed yet. Town is currently listed as a Priority 5 for the state, it is necessary but state funding is unlikely in the near future

Health Care—

1. (2) Great opportunity to document/market the services. Reference MaineGeneral’s brochures as they mention Winthrop heavily. Opportunity to post services on town’s website

Recreation—

- Reference Lonney Steeves
- Reference Tom Reeves

1. (3) Significant progress, but not by formal plan or timeline
2. (3)
3. (2) Tennis courts, Skate Park
4. (2) High interest but no funding to date. Consider warning markers, increased signage on Memorial Drive for Pedestrians
5. (1). Issue is raised for cars w/ trailers. Sign by the beach should be changed to reflect “open” rather than restricted to town residents
6. (1)
7. (1)
8. (1)

Education—

1. (3) New High School facility! Large-scale update to Grade school and middle school

The Committee was not able to fully complete the review. Patrice offered to finish the review with Cornell and add to the minutes between now and the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. The Committee agreed to this plan.

Cornell agreed to put an ad in the Community Advertiser about the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. **All were asked to “bring a friend” so that we could have significant public input at this meeting.**

9:00pm Close of Meeting

Next Week Agenda:

Downtown Economic Vitality