

Swan's Island Comprehensive Planning Committee Minutes

September 19, 2017

The organizational meeting of the newly formed Swan's Island Comprehensive Planning Committee began at 6PM with Town Clerk Gwen May swearing in the members in attendance: Bill Banks, Sonja Philbrook, Christal Applin, Sarah Lane, Myron Sprague, Jr., Gary Rainford, Candis Joyce and Donna Wiegler.

Election of officers took place with the following being unanimously elected:

Sonja Philbrook, Chairman,
Christal Applin Vice-Chair
Donna Wiegler, Secretary

Chairman Sonja Philbrook began a conversation about other island towns that have recently adopted updated comprehensive plans, including Frenchboro, Vinalhaven, and Cranberry Isles. Donna Wiegler shared the story of how Island Institute fellow Andy Dorr helped Vinalhaven to write its current comp plan, including conversations with all groups of residents, from the knitting group to lobstermen and everything in between. This approach made sure that everyone had a part in the comprehensive plan that the town adopted.

It was decided to get electronic copies of comp plans from various island towns and possibly some small mainland towns that have seasonal residents. Donna will send an email out to all Maine Island Coalition representatives and request a copy of their town's plan. Sonny Sprague will contact Maine Municipal Association and ask about mainland plans for communities with seasonal residents. The comp plans will be distributed to the committee, with each member reviewing at least one plan and reporting on it at our next meeting.

Gary Rainford will get 10 copies of the current Swan's Island Comprehensive Plan from 1994 to distribute to committee members for review.

The idea of applying for an Island Institute fellow to help work on writing a new comprehensive plan was discussed. Sonny Sprague said it will be on the warrant at Town Meeting in 2018.

It was decided that meetings will be held monthly on the third Tuesday of the month. The next Comp Plan Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17 at 6PM at the Town Office.

Candi Joyce made a motion to adjourn. Sonny Sprague seconded the motion and it was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Wiegler
Secretary