



TOWN OF BREMEN
P.O. Box 171~ Bremen, ME 04551

Wayne Barber, Member
Steve Barnes, Member
Mary Berger, Member
Susan Carr, Member
Bennett Collins, Member
Isobel Curtis, Member
Hal D'Alby, Member
Debora Elliott, Member
Cheryl Ferrara, Moderator
Martha Frink, Member
Charles Miller, Member

Summary Bremen Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting **Thursday, July 30, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.**

Committee Members Present: Wayne Barber, Steve Barnes, Mary Berger, Hal D'Alby, Martha Frink, Bennett Collins, Cheryl Ferrara and Charles Miller

Others Present: Town Clerk Melanie Pendleton

SUMMARY

The committee had its first look at the survey poster. Four posters were received and will be available for community events. Three table stands and one floor stand to hold the posters are on order. Town Clerk Melanie Pendleton said the town also has two floor stands that could be used by the committee.

The final draft of the Community Survey was reviewed. Discussion on question 31 led to a division of that question into town facilities and other local facilities. Minimum changes were made to other questions including 17, 18, 19, 26, 29, and 41. Wherever an "Other" was followed by check boxes, the committee decided to remove the boxes and leave the "If other, please explain," essay question only.

A motion was made by Bennett Collins to accept the final draft of the Community Survey with the changes discussed and to allow for any other incidental changes that might be required to produce the survey. The motion was duly seconded by Charles Miller with a unanimous vote of 8 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

Charles Miller suggested it might be possible to use a Quick Response code (QR code) to direct people to the town's website link where they could download a copy of the survey. There was some discussion about developing a fillable PDF, but that was tabled until a later date.

The committee agreed that the Selectboard will be sent the survey prior to the Board of Selectmen meeting on August 6th. The committee would like the Selectboard's approval to put the survey in the field and permission to circulate it on the town's website, community email, any other town-supported vehicles, and to hold information sessions in the Town Center meeting room. Planning Board members will be sent the final survey by email for review and comment. Planning Board members will be asked to participate in the survey at their next meeting on August 14th.

The committee by consensus agreed to produce 300 copies of the survey in its initial batch. Hal D'Alby, Steve Barnes and Cheryl Ferrara agreed to canvas the public over the next two months.

Volunteers will be needed to host a table at Chocolate Sunday, August 9th, between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Anyone interested should let the committee moderator know as soon as possible.

Survey Raffle

After multiple discussions, it has been determined that taxpayer money should not be used for a raffle. Other methods such as donated prizes could be considered, but the committee's consultant did not think an incentive was needed to create excitement around survey.

Community Information and Survey Introduction Events

Dates for the committee to host Community Information and Survey events at the Town Center were discussed. Both an evening and day event will be offered for residents to learn more about the comprehensive planning process and to share their questions or concerns. Events will include pizzas and sodas. A gluten-free and vegetarian option will be available. Children activities were discussed, so parents can participate. Cheryl Ferrara will look into getting some publicity in the Lincoln County News.

Community Information and Survey Introduction Events Dates (tentative):

Monday, September 14th, at 5 p.m.

Wednesday, October 7th, at 11 a.m.

These are tentative, but hopefully, useable dates. Please check your calendars and let the committee know if you can commit to be in attendance.

Water Resources

Martha Frink and Mary Berger brought the committee up to speed on a discussion they shared with Sarah Gladu, community scientist with Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust. Josie, her intern, has been measuring lakes and ponds in Lincoln County for phosphorus, clarity, oxygen levels, and other water related issues. She has even worked on loon counts. Martha and Mary presented a brochure specific to area lakes including some important recommendations for water protection. Findings included information on Webber, McCurdy, Pemaquid and Biscay ponds as well as information about aquifer and wellhead protection. The Water Resources working group has scheduled a meeting with Sarah Gladu on August 6th to check Muskrat Pond. It was not included in the water bodies in Bremen that have been monitored by Coastal Rivers in past years.

Housing and Public Facilities

Cheryl Ferrara shared a short document on the 70-bed assisted living memory care unit approved for construction in Damariscotta. Although not located in Bremen, the facility is close enough to be an asset to Bremen residents.

History and Archaeology

Hal D'Alby presented a work in progress inventorying locations in Bremen of historical significance. Included were the Daniel Weston Homestead, the Bremen Town House, the Joseph Dochendorff House, the Cornelius Rhodes House, the Bremen Union Church, the Audubon Camp, the Cora F. Cressey schooner, and others. There will be more locations to come from this working group.

Consultant Meeting and Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission's Transportation Section

Representatives of the Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission will present their work on the Transportation Section at the August 27th full committee meeting. Max Johnstone, the town's consultant, will be attending the September 24th full committee meeting as a follow-up to discussions on July 14th. He will be there to give guidance and answer questions.

Budget Discussion

Committee members reviewed expenses to date and discussed cost effective way to disseminate the Community Survey. The committee will continue working on the budget at the August 27th full committee meeting. Cheryl Ferrara will bring some costs for the "Community Information and Survey Introduction" events to that meeting.

Meeting Date Conflicts

The committee was not able to resolve the issue of a meeting date conflict in December. The last Thursday in December conflicts with New Year's Eve. The prior Thursday, December 24th, conflicts with Christmas Eve. The committee tabled discussion until the August 27th full committee meeting.

Future Agendas

Agenda items to be included at the August 27th full board meeting:

- Transportation presentation by the Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission
- Budget items for the Community Survey (i.e., fillable PDFs and other online needs) and for the "Community Information and Survey Introduction" events
- Materials and presentation plan for the for the Community Information and Survey Introduction events
- Discussion on the December meeting date

NEXT FULL BOARD MEETING DATES (the public is always invited):

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27th AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE TOWN OFFICE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th 6:00 P.M. IN THE TOWN OFFICE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29th 6:00 P.M. IN THE TOWN OFFICE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24th 6:00 P.M. IN THE TOWN OFFICE
DECEMBER - TBA