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MINUTES OF THE MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING SUNDAY DECEMBER 4, 2022 4:00 PM AT TOWN HALL

Members Present: Lorne Jones, Jane Lannon, Peter Schwab, Conni White, Pamela Yonkin

Members Absent: Kathy Richards, Rodney Rowland

Members jumped right into the meeting discussing the overall plan. Ms. White described how other towns' plans were easy to read because they were presented in a graphically appealing manner. She suggested that this committee could provide the content and a graphic artist could then design the presentation. At some point we can investigate if there is money in the budget to hire such talent. In addition, it was suggested that we might want to have someone outside of the committee act as editor of what is written. There are individuals in town who could perform this service.

Each committee member had uploaded whatever they had written on their assigned topic onto a Googledoc that was shared with all committee members. The meeting was devoted to reviewing these sections with the members who were present.

Ms. Yonkin will continue to update the introduction to the MP and revise per input from other members. She will investigate adding survey results into this section.

Mr. Jones discussed his section on Public Services by reporting he found three major themes emerging from his research:

Safety (Police, fire, etc)
Recreation and Leisure (The Commons, Library, etc)
Town Assets (Building and Equipment)
Several comments and questions:
This section should contain a list of all Town assets
Aging of the community does impact services in the community
What are we doing with our assets?
How do we monetize our assets?
What about having a Town Landing Dock?
Should we address Goat Island and having a public landing there?
How do we treat State property in NC in our MP? We should at least mention it
Mention the Coast Guard land
Maybe mention the cemeteries in town and put some facts in

Ms. Landon weighed in on her section dealing with transportation. She is looking to put in data and documentation She will consult with Rockingham Planning Commission

As a result of the discussion at this meeting, she will not deal with the Causeway in this section of the report

She will consult with Police Chief White and the Safepath Chair

Mr. Schwab spoke about his section on Public Utilities which includes electricity and telecom. He reported that there isn't a lot to say about this topic. Committee members discussed addressing solar installations in New Castle, generators, frequency of power outages. Water and sewer should be addressed in this section as well.

Ms. White reviewed her section on Sea Level Rise and collected comments from committee members on the charts and graphics that she had collected on the topic. She noted that sea level rise is often addressed, but New Castle needs to be equally aware of ground water rise as we are sitting atop mostly ledge in town. She suggested that committee members reference the Hampton Master Plan as well as the North Hampton Master Plan.

Chair Yonkin asked for approval as written of the minutes from the October 27, 2022 meeting. Ms. Lannon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Thursday, January 19, 2023 at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Darcy Horgan Recording Secretary