

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

August 7, 2023

1:00 PM – Rye Town Hall

Present: Chair Rob Wright, Patricia Losik, Kathryn Garcia and Planning & Zoning Administrator Kim Reed, Land Use Assistant, Kara Campbell and Jenn Rowden, RPC Consultant

I. Call to Order

Chair Wright called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

2. NHHOP Grant Update

Chair Wright called the meeting to order and pledge of allegiance.

Jenn Rowden had the housing survey summary report to go over the draft with the committee. She is going to do an outreach blast with the summary linked. The email blast two (2) main purposes will be for those to see the results and save the date. The overview will be a one page summary, what went into the survey, where the full results can be found/available and results for the Master Plan.

Chair Wright asks about the style and wondering if there could be a pie chart to show the results.

Ms. Rowden says yes or a bar graph.

Ms. Rowden continues to go over the review and background. She states this is a snapshot in time there will be a lot more work this was just a broad brush, others will use this information.

Chair Wright wants to see a cross link from town facilities.

Ms. Rowden concurs.

Ms. Losik wants Aquarion and Rye Water District included.

Ms. Rowden stated that four (4) themes materialized when reviewing the survey results.

- Rye's Characteristics
- Natural Resources
- Residents feel secure in staying in their Rye housing.
- Lack of understanding Rye's housing goals.

Ms. Rowden stated that some of the comments specifically showed lack of understanding. Rye has high land values and high demand.

Ms. Losik if the community /people say housing is important then redevelopment is possible.

Ms. Rowden some of the concerns were of large homes being built on smaller lots, concern older homes being torn down.

Ms. Rowden stated there is no one decision for housing, may have to do a lot of things for example look at lot coverage and explain intent and purpose in zoning.

Chair Wright asked Ms. Rowden if there was any ranking of the themes she articulated? And on the lack of understanding, what are we trying to accomplish.

Ms. Rowden no order, it appeared to come out in her opinion. In September launch a vision with the public engagement. Cover three (3) main things in September:

1. Oriented to Rye Housing, state the data, projections and summary of the needs assessment.
2. Heard from the survey and vision session back in 2021, now want public input. Maybe sticky notes or dots.
3. Want photos with sticky notes with comments, spectrum of options, quotes.

At the September event not focus too long on the Data, it is what it is, want to get more feedback from the public what they see vision of Rye's housing through comments, sticky notes or dots on pictures of what is possible.

Ms. Losik asked about Phase II.

Chair Wright wants to flesh out details for September 26th.

Ms. Rowden says it will be at Jr. High. Go over housing data, survey results. 1st is a presentation then 2nd interactive.

Ms. Rowden states that Phase II is waiting on approval of pending funding. Told NH Housing Authority will know late September at earliest and during Phase II asked for 25K.

Ms. Rowden goes on to talk about Phase II and the advantages of doing it, regulations and flexibility.

Ms. Losik says we meet again on September 12th and Planning Board on September 19th and the Master Plan Steering Committee on September 5th. At the September 12th meeting if you can have the application for PHASE III draft then at the September 19th Planning Board meeting the Board can vote to put in for the Phase III grant.

Next Meeting September 12, 2023 at 1pm. Goal to have public information session September 26th.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Reed, CFM
Planning & Zoning Administrator