

Town of Casco  
Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee  
October 24, 2024  
6:30 PM  
Casco Community Center

## **First Order of Business**

- Call meeting to Order
- Determine a Quorum
- Review and Approval of the Meeting Agenda
- Approval of Minutes: September 26, 2024 - Tabled until next meeting

**Members Present: Rae-Anne Nguyen, Tiffany Payton, Tom McCarthy, Robert Williamson, Robert MacDonald, Pam Edwards, Sam Brown**

**Non-Members Present: Sarah Turner, Eugene Connolly**

## **Public Comment**

## **Old Business**

### Water Quality - Next Steps

Keep it simple, start with basics and don't need to re-invent the wheel.

1. Monitoring of water quality and invasives
2. Stewardship with lakeshore owners
3. Strengthen zoning on first order streams in upper watershed

Tom McCarthy suggested establish a clean water commission similar to what they have in Raymond, map certain areas that are more sensitive, require a level of review before permitting goes to Planning Board.

- Keep tree cover above 85% (75%?)
- Increased monitoring and testing for certain areas (first-order watersheds)
- Volunteer board, 5 members with 2 alternates
- Town commission vs non-profit? Thinks it needs to be municipal for enforcement over future development

Bob suggested that Resource Protection Zones need to be re-considered

Rae thinks that we need to propose the commission to the select board before drafting any zoning ordinances

Recommendation to board that commission should be formed - here are a few key things that they should start with

Pam takeaways:

- Don't need to re-invent the wheel, can copy ideas/structures from existing places
- Monitoring and documenting current conditions, especially waterbodies that don't have lake associations.
- Using a drone to take photos for monitoring, before/after photos for enforcement purposes
  - Can town buy a drone and let lake associations use it?
- Get code enforcement officer, town manager, on board with following and enforcing existing ordinances
- If first order streams are protected, doesn't have to be as high as 75% cover
- Support the existing associations with invasive species monitoring

Tiffany brought up current problems with RP zone, wondering if we can map the First Order streams

Rae Anne suggested a policy similar to Complete Streets Draft Policy

Sam Takeaways:

- #1 issue is monitoring, especially ones not currently being monitoring.
  - Coffee Pond
- Boat activity and boat inspections
- Education: education for young people
- Portland Water District relationship needs to be fostered. CEO Roundtable. \$500 grants available for monitoring equipment on a first come first serve basis. Casco should apply for this every year.

- Should have another event in the springtime focused on education where we invite lake associations, etc.
- “Eternal Vigilance”

Tom will take a first pass at a draft at proposal, send to Sarah to post on Google Docs and share with the group

### Land Use Priorities

Rob suggests meeting with the Planning Board for our next meeting, where are biggest challenges? Commercial Standards? Resource Protection?

There is a joint Planning Board/Select Board workshop next week. Pam, Rae, and Bob will be in attendance at the Select Board / Planning Board joint meeting.

Rae will talk to Ryan about getting on an upcoming planning board agenda so we can talk about priorities

### **New Business**

### **Adjournment**