

**TOWN OF NORTH KINGSTOWN
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN RE-WRITE**

**Steering Committee Meeting Notes
October 14, 2015**

MEETING PARTICIPANTS

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

1. Kerry McKay
2. Meg Kerr
3. Frank Fede
4. Michael McGauvran
5. Sheila McGauvran
6. Sheila Brush
7. Sandra Dobson
8. Palmer Beebe
9. Bjorn Wellenius
10. Meredith Brady

PLANNING TEAM:

1. Rebecca Lamond (North Kingstown Dept. of Planning)
2. Stacey Chen (Interface Studio)
3. Yoona Ahn (Interface Studio)

MEETING NOTES

Stacey Chen of Interface Studio presented an update on where we are in the comprehensive planning process, reviewed the results from September's Steering Committee visioning exercise and focus groups, and explained the activities for the next day's Public Forum.

I. PROCESS AND NEXT STEPS

- The Committee discussed the structure of the Comprehensive Plan document. The content will be similar to the 2008 Comprehensive Plan but more streamlined, more general and illustrative. The 2008 Comprehensive Plan includes background for each element with accomplishments, goals and actions. The State requires specific information be included in the plan, some of which will be put in the Appendix in order to keep the Plan document shorter and easier to read. Like the 2008 Plan, this Plan will be produced as a PDF and will be searchable through Adobe Acrobat or Reader.
- Next public forum is most likely to be in January due to difficulty scheduling during the holidays.

II. REVIEW OF THE VISIONING EXERCISE AND FOCUS GROUP MEETINGS

- The committee reviewed the visioning exercise and focus group "takeaways" as a starting point for transitioning into the process of creating a vision and goals.
- Two committee members asked how the "takeaways" were selected and requested a summary of the main conclusions, noting that if the "takeaways drive in part the Comp Plan's vision statement, they should be comprehensive. These summaries are to be found in the Focus Groups notes that were distributed earlier by email. [For additional clarification, the focus group summaries were not presented in the public forum and are only one of the many other sources of input that will be considered for the vision statement.]
- One committee member expressed concern about focus group discussion surrounding Post Road as being too focused on appearance. The existing conditions analysis for the Plan delves into other issues as does the activity for the public forum.

III. PREVIEW OF THE PUBLIC FORUM ACTIVITIES

- Request to include “housing” as one of the options for the Wickford Junction board. This change has been made.