



Town of Ashland , Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee

Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Meeting

Ashland Public Library

66 Front Street

Ashland, MA 01721

March 20, 2025, 7:00 PM

Meeting Minutes (*Draft*)

Present:

Town Manager

Planning Director:

Select Board Representative:

Select Board Representative:

Planning Board Representative:

Planning Board Representative:

Library Trustee's Representative:

Open Space and Recreation Representative:

Sustainability Committee Representative:

Affordable Housing Trust Representative:

Board of Health Representative:

Cultural Council Representative:

Historical Commission Representative:

Ashland Upper Charles Trail Committee Representative:

Conservation Commission Representative:

Council on Aging Representative:

DEI Task Force Representative:

Econ Dev Advisory Committee Representative:

ZBA Representative:

School Committee Representative:

Town Forest Committee Representative:

Design Review Committee:

Precinct 1:

Precinct 2:

Michael Herbert

Peter Matchak

Brandi Kinsman

Yolanda Greaves

Catherine Jurczyk

Anna Tesmenitsky

Claire Goss (Absent)

Roberta Soolman

Chuck Lidz

Alan Galiwango (Remote)

Ed Burman (Remote)

Stacey Grant Lewis

Karen Coleman (Absent)

Tony Lewis

Carl Hakansson

Steve Mitchell (Remote)

Moala Kitayimwba (Absent)

Beth Reynolds

(OPEN SEAT)

Mike Caira

Cara Hulme

Bill Novakowski (Absent)

Jacob Coolberth

Leah Suarez

Precinct 3:	David Evancho
Precinct 4:	Aroon Manoharan (Absent)
Precinct 5:	Rajashree Ghosh
Precinct 6:	Lisa Churchill
High School Representative:	Hasini Reddy (Absent)

Others Present:

Jenn Goldson, JM Goldson

Call meeting to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Presentation of second draft of strategies

Jenn Goldson stated that there were 99 strategies tagged for discussion, she reviewed the timeframe for how long it will take to go through this number of items. Ms. Goldson suggested forming a subcommittee to meet over the next few weeks and bring a redlined version to the April 17th meeting, to help keep the Project on track and on schedule; otherwise it could extend the length of Project. The Committee discussed pros and cons regarding forming a subcommittee.

Ms. Jurczyk expressed concern as to whether the strategies will help meet the goal. Ms. Goldson stated that they often run working sessions on metrics and this could be offered to the Committee during an upcoming meeting. Ms. Goldson stated that the list of strategies was sent to the Committee on March 13th; from that list, the Committee identified 99 strategies to be discussed; Ms. Goldson agreed to provide the list of strategies that were removed. A questionnaire will be sent out to the Committee with the removed items, and whether the items should not have been removed.

Ms. Goldson reviewed a number of the strategies from the list with the Committee, making revisions throughout. A Tree Protection Bylaw was added to the list to be discussed further.

The Committee discussed whether a Town staff member would be available to assist with the subcommittee meetings; Mr. Matchak stated that he has accepted another position and will no longer be working in the Town as of April 4th; Mr. Herbert stated that it would not be feasible to have the Assistant Town Planner working with a subcommittee considering the heavy workload he will have. The Committee agreed the subcommittee would consist of Anna Tesmenitsky, Kate Jurczyk, Chuck Lidz and Jake Coolberth; Ms. Ghosh will post the meetings with the Town Clerk's Office. Ms. Goldson will send the updated list of strategies to the subcommittee members.

Approve MoM from prior meetings

The Committee unanimously approved the meeting minutes from October 2024.

Adjourn

The Committee adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Documents Referenced During 3/21/2025 Meeting

Meeting Agenda, 3/22/2025

AshlandCP_StrategyShortlist