

Transportation
September 20, 2012
4:30-4:45

Members Present: Joel Greenwood, Elery Keene, Jim Wood, Linda Woods, Scott Workman

Jim reported that Ann Beverage recommended the importance of getting our ideas into the City's comprehensive plan if we want to get the Council's support. Transportation is scheduled for October 29 meeting. Jim agrees the more we can get the bike/ped plans into the comprehensive plan the better.

Joel is working with Fairfield's comprehensive plan. Fairfield's Transportation meeting is scheduled for October 18 at 6:30 at the Community Center.

Jim presented a copy of the proposed *Kennebec Explorer* transit plan. If you would like a copy, contact Jim. This suggestion has a lot of merit, but it comes with a cost.

- 3 bus system provides continuous service throughout the City from 7 AM to 6 PM; the 2 bus system uses alternate routes
- includes commuter routes through Winslow
- runs in a clockwise circle
- Colby is thinking about replacing its Jitney service with a bus. Scott thinks this could be a "pay-for" service
- Linda wondered about including Vassalboro
- Elery talked to Jack about the potential for the passenger train coming to Waterville. It should come up the east side to where Statler Paper used to be. Elery reiterated the importance of getting Waterville City Council behind this; so that when funds are available, Waterville is ready.
- Scott wondered if there is a pulse (where buses meet) in Waterville. He & Jim discussed several possibilities.
- Everything is on a half-hour loop.
- This plan is quite aggressive. Realistically a modification to a 2 bus system might occur. This would provide service to most parts of the city every hour. Others would get service every other hour.
- Jim would like the Waterville & Fairfield Councils to add this to the comprehensive plan. Jim has all the costs available as well. This is not in the Winslow plan, so Elery suggested doing it as an amendment.
- Needs to add Thomas College
- Using Rt. 104 provides better access for passengers than I-95.
- There will be a round about to connect the new hospital to I-95.
- Adding a stop to the Commerce Center (former Digital building)

Action Items:

Linda: have Clough contact Jim about Vassalboro

Scott: Send Jim an e-mail with new improvements to Exit 113 in Augusta

Scott wondered about passenger rail to Augusta. It looks like Lewiston & Auburn is preparing their plan. Jack has suggested several times that Waterville-Augusta needs to be ready. Scott knows that city & towns need to ask for this. Waterville has never signed a resolution requesting passenger service. Jack would like us to encourage Waterville to get involved. Jim will mention this to the Augusta council.

Jack told Elery about piggy-backs' coming out of Waterville rail yard. There is interest in Pam-Am to restoring this.

Jim agrees it is important to include rail possibilities in the comprehensive plan.

Jim presented a draft of a document he created for Augusta to show what public transportation has done for the city. It shows how each piece (public transit, trails) supports sustainability.

Action Item:

Elery: Contact Jack to get the contact info for the person who suggested interest in piggy-back service

Elery & Jack: by 10/25, write a letter of support for rail service to serve as boilerplate for rail for central Maine region OR bullet points of what rail could do for central Maine & include support for the intermodal service

Peter & Scott: finalize the presentation for the City Council

Joel: transportation for Fairfield to all

The Transportation Team's presentation is on agenda for the Waterville City Council on November 20.

The next meeting will be **October 25 at 4:30** at **KVCOG**.

The meeting after that is **November 15 at 4:30** at **KVCOG**.

Agenda:

Planning meeting to prepare for the comprehensive planning meeting (to be October 29)

Scott recommended having 10 slides.