

Appleton Comprehensive Plan Committee

Sept 16, 2019 - Minutes

Notes from Sid Quarrier

A. Town survey and its distribution

1. Discussion with Jay Feyler, town manager of Union, about their survey

* Much of it was done with an internet survey, Survey Monkey I think. Sent out on email lists, also access to the survey on town web site, and some mailing.

* They were not too particular who answered, but they requested, but did not require a name. They thought the name was important. they were concerned about individuals filing a number of returns.

* They were relatively pleased with the amount of response

2. Appleton school (district) has also used email based surveys using Survey Monkey

3. The town of Appleton has two available mailing lists, Taxpayers, total about 1,000 entries Residents, total about 750 entries

4. The Chamber of Commerce has a bulk mail stamp that may be possible to use for a fee. It has to be printed on the mailing label part of the piece

This could be delivered to all letter boxes in Appleton, but not PO boxes.

Or probably, individual address labels from the town lists could be affixed.

WHAT ABOUT THE RETURN OF MAILED OUT QUESTIONNAIRES? Return address,? return postage?

B. Lincoln County Regional Planning Agency

Last spring Meghan McLaughlan from this agency helped us a bit with some starting advice. She subsequently left that agency. They have hired a new planner, Elswyth Strassberger. (phone [882 4271](tel:8824271)) I have spoken with her briefly. You may remember that this agency had offered to set up the transportation survey with the State DOT for Appleton during next year. Ms. Strassberger is going to check in on the status of this request.

In calling Lincoln County, I was trying to track down the contact information for Eric Gallant, who was the regional planner for our area a few years ago. Eric helped Appleton a lot with its last plan. Eric is apparently a freelance planner consultant open for business in our area.

When I spoke with Jay Feyler in Union, he said they used Eric through their connection with Midcoast regional Planning and that they couldn't have done the plan without his assistance or at least something equivalent.

C. survey questions.

Since a major part of the State's interest in a Comp Plan is about the future, should we include a question or two more directly about the future.

In ten years time: What changes would you like to see.? What changes would you like not to see? What things would you like to remain the same?

Draft general statement of what a comprehensive plan is about.

Some form of this could be part of the introduction on the questionnaire.

Appleton town Comprehensive Plan

Statement of purpose.

The Comprehensive plan is intended to provide:

1. A relatively up-to-date inventory or overview of the Town's land, resources, people, housing, public infrastructure and government.
2. An analysis and evaluation of how well the present circumstances are serving the interests, and needs of the community.
3. Suggested goals and possible strategies for improving the present circumstances , in particular,
4. to guide future growth.

As part of this ,the Appleton Comprehensive Plan Committee has prepared a public survey with questions for resident's opinions about Appleton's character and its future.

Town Comprehensive Plans are prepared and updated every 10 years or so by most towns in the state.