

CITY OF NISSWA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #6 – 6:00-8:00pm



Date: Tuesday, June 13
Location: Nisswa City Hall
Meeting Chair(s): Ashley Kaisershot and Dawn Espe
Summary by: A. Kaisershot
In Attendance: Dawn Espe, R5DC, Ashley Kaisershot, NJPA, Steering Committee Members: Mark Ronnei, Mike Sedivy, Cari LaRose, Bob Fier, Reed Larson, Shawn Hansen, Suzie Wignall, and Anne Laufman, Nisswa Planning Commission
CC: Maggi Wentler, Deputy Clerk; Mark Hallan, WSN, City Engineer; Tom Blomer, Public Works Director; Matthew Hill, Parks and Recreation Director.
Copies: To all steering committee members

1. An overview of work completed to date was given and discussed:

- (2) Visioning sessions
- (7) Steering committee meetings
- (2) Community surveys
- (2) Focus groups
- (1) Economic development survey

More than 14 hours have been dedicated to the creation of the plan and community engagement efforts.

2. A thirty-day comment period will be on June 26th through July 30th. A public hearing will be at the Planning Commission meeting on August 8th, with approval at the August 16th Council meeting.

***This is rescheduled for a later date.*

3. Vision statements were read as a part of the review of the survey comments received to date. Option 1 of the survey has received the most votes. Recommendation to combine options 1 and 3, and to add “Brainerd Lakes Area” into the vision statement; creating an identity and location.

- OPTION 1: Visitors and residents can enjoy the small town charm of our eclectic downtown, adore our abundance of natural resources, and thrive in our culture of environmental stewardship and active living. (39%)
- OPTION 2: Nisswa is a quaint resort community centrally located in the Brainerd Lake area that promotes an active lifestyle, and unlimited recreational and natural resource opportunities. (24%)
- OPTION 3: Our city offers endless community events and outdoor experiences for all ages to enjoy. Our eclectic downtown, outstanding educational opportunities, and wealth of natural resources leave lasting memories, foster community pride, for all who visit and reside. (30%)

4. Survey results were reviewed. A total of 59 responses were collected as of June 12th, **with a closing date of June 26th**. 70% permanent residents, and 20% of seasonal residents have completed the survey.

5. An open discussion on the document occurred. The plan covers ten elements:

Community character, land use, housing, transportation, infrastructure, natural resources, sustainability, economic development, park, trail and open space, and tourism.

Recommendations were made to downsize the document, omitting language that is too broad, and supporting narratives. An executive summary will be created with the assistance of the steering committee. A list of the ten most important elements will be developed, pulled directly from visioning session and survey responses. **This review will be completed by the steering committee, and submitted to project managers by July 7th**. A packet will be submitted to SC after the close of community survey #2. Steering committee members shall review the community survey overviews and visioning session summaries and determine the common themes that participants identified i.e., life-cycle housing, water quality, downtown programming.

In an effort to downsize the document, the *housing* chapter will be analyzed and re-formatted per the steering committee's recommendations, and submitted for comment before proceeding with the restructuring, formatting of the entire document.

Note: It is important to note that the meeting summary reflects conversations and dialogue that occurred the night of June 13. Requested edits to the document are not reflected in these meeting minutes.

NEXT STEPS:

Steering committee will assist in marketing, and promoting the survey to gather feedback.

Survey closes on Monday, June 26.

Steering committee members will analyze documents and promptly respond with a "Top 10 list" of guiding principles, or leading themes identified by participants. The entire document will be shorted, and evaluated, incorporating steering committee comments and recommendations.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES:

The public hearing for August have been rescheduled for a later date that is TBD.