

Introductions

Judy introduces the purpose of the meeting

- New prospective zoning areas in the UT is the purpose
- Much of area is in general management, in certain districts there is residential, commercial, etc.
- If you are in general management you need a zone change before getting a permit
- So what changes in zones are needed for the future
- C: was there a problem in changing the zones?
- J: there have been complaints in the past; a two step process; can we gain efficiency? The decision making is too far away; this is an attempt to bring decision-making to WC
- C: If I want to build a garage what would change?
- J: It would depend on your circumstances; lets get a little more into the meeting.

1. Gender

2. Age – 64% over 65

3. Residency – 85% full time residents of UT

4. Land Ownership – 92% own land and live in UT

5. Interest in UT planning

- Other may mean all of the above; a lot of retired people interested in all of these things
- I live here! (prompted by Judy)

6. Affiliation/Interest - 77% interested citizens

Judy reviews - How did we get here?

- See slides and handouts
- Prospective zoning explained
- Why here, why now
- Efficiency and predictability
- Project process
- GIS mapping
- C: What does this all do for us?
- J: What it gives to you is more decision-making over how land is used.
- C: Who makes the final decision?
- J: First by the county commissioners and then by LUPC; they will be guided by all this input

7. Benefits to UT

- Natural resources - 73% very important
- Quiet remote lifestyle – 57% very important
- Land base for critical habitat – 79% very important
- Commercial resource extraction – 47% very important
- Residential growth – 43% very important
- C: “Jobs are what is important; bunch of retired people here.”

Judy reviews Anticipated Products slides

- Talked about the Community building as an example of a project
- What kind of projects should be supported?

Judy reviews Context for Planning – what is part of the planning process, and what is not?

8. Focus areas - resilience to extreme weather

- Infrastructure – 75% very important
- Landowner training – 46% very important
- Land use restrictions – 57% very important
- Land conservation – “depends on who does it” – 79% very important
- Land management – 57% very important

Judy on 4 F’s and Economic Development

9. Future Development

- Shellfish and septic systems – 33% very important
 - C: Why would TIFF money be used for this?
 - J: Shellfish significant for economic development; how should this industry be supported; talked about eligibility and small community grant program; a bit of a biased reply – 33% very important
- Consistent forestry regulations – very important
 - C: Doesn't seem to be anyone enforcing what they do now.” -
- Blueberry production – 46% very important
 - C: “does this mean that you would tear out blueberry fields for residential growth?”
 - J: no – you explained again; turn question around
- Residential development were services close by – 38% very important
 - C: We do not have community services
 - J: Yes they are limited but near larger communities
- Increase residential development where ever proposed - 20% very important
- Increase commercial/industrial - 29% very important
 - C: Maybe we have to develop where there is not any infrastructure
 - J: why would you do that?
 - C: (Missed comment)

- Identify locations for Commercial – 46% very important
- Explore mineral extraction opportunities - 21% very important
 - C: mine (?) near where school was
- Critical habitats – 57% very important
- Wildlife/fish passage – 36% very important
- Continued public access to water and land – 93% very important

10. Competing interests – audience comments

- “Trucks driving through town vs forestry jobs”

11. Land use with most positive impact – audience comments

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12. Topics/concerns to be aware of – audience comments

- C: population and communities varies in different UT’s; some favor wind turbines and others are against them because it impacts why they are there or what they do; each one of the communities is unique and the state lumps us all together; am I making a decision that impacts another UT (shellfish vs Brookton); I do know about my own community and what my fears are; whether or not you will have a decision making process that considers each community; who will make the decisions for Brookton vs the other UTs; there are some things that blindside us; it is right for me to make a decision about Bering, and vis a versa. One of the reasons I came to the meeting is that I would like to see community input on what are Brookton concerns; how will this all get weighted. (Dale)
- J: resources are limited; we have separated the areas into 4 sub regions; the decisions that are made in one UT will be reviewed by the people who live in that UT; when it comes to prospective zoning process you will make those decisions; we have had three meetings now for intro; I can imagine having more meetings in June with more specific information to the communities; these meetings will be tied more to individual UTs.
- J: the planning committee is still taking on members; monthly meetings beginning in Nov through to June; if you want to be on the meeting notice provide email so you will be informed
- C: my concern – I am all for development – decision makers will put things in the UTs because no lives here; rock crusher; there are people who live here and care; example – cell tower on property and strobe light blinking on neighbors; UT rules do not include public hearings on cell towers; so much concern and cell tower lowered; but they could say we will put cell towers all around and lose night skies and what we enjoy here.
- C: What does TIFF stand for?
- J: Susan?
- Susan – explains TIFF
- J: what started this work was the reform work in 2013 – grounded in wanting more
- C; when did you start getting TIFF money?
- S: put in place in 2009; started getting money in 2010
- C: how is money being spent

- S: breakwater broke; helped UT resident with new fishing boat; we did a planning grant in Big Lake who wanted to see if they wanted an RV park, did feasibility study
- J: the money for this project is coming from the TIFF – county commissioners chose to do this because it is good to proactively think about where development can go; explained Aroostook idea for a Rural BD district.
- H: In Aroostook less than ½ of the UTs that were east of Route 11
- J: this meant that people did not have to get a zone change, just a permit; talked about Rural Residential Home based business