

Town of Londonderry, Vermont
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 1, 2020 – 11:00 AM (Zoom Meeting)
Meeting held remotely via online video with no physical presence

Commission Members Attending: Sharon Crossman, Elsie Smith, Larry Gubb, Dwight Johnson, Dick Dale, Mimi Lines and Andrew Rackear

Others Attending: Zoning Administrator Shane O’Keefe, Jenna Koloski (VCRD), Cindy Gubb (ACCD), Chris Company (WRC), Sarah Lang (BDCC-SVEP).

1. Meeting was called to order at 11:03 AM. Sharon read the State mandated procedures and protocols and rules for a warned Remote Electronic Meeting and called the role of all attendees participating remotely. As required by law, the meeting was recorded using the Zoom recording feature. There were no members of the public in attendance.
2. Additions to the agenda - Discussion of Bylaw timing of meetings.
3. No minutes approved.
4. The discussion on 5/13/2020 re: Project Londonderry was continued and facilitated by Jenna Koloski of VCRD with a goal of establishing a few actionable next steps from the list generated after the 5/13/2020 discussion. The list included: 1. Create a more welcoming environment in Town, 2. Support local businesses, 3. Develop support for and cooperation between residents and second home citizens, 4. Develop support for and greater opportunities for young people, 5. Offer more opportunities to communicate what is happening in Londonderry beyond Facebook, and the Town Website, 6. Create more recreational options like a “Sunday Stroll” so that citizens can easily and regularly interact, 7. Create a VTrans hotline so that there is more accessible information on the reconstruction of Route 11, 8. Expand modes of communication between our citizens and about town affairs, 9. Establish significantly improved Broadband in town, 10. Establish a better “brand” and Town identity that creates sense of local pride and positive attitude, 11. Reach out to surrounding towns to help promote regional cooperation, support and activities. Mimi, Cindy and Dwight agreed to refine actionable next steps to be vetted by the PC and then presented to the focus partners and working group on June 17.

The specific actions agreed to after the discussion were: 1. Develop a more inclusive communication network (perhaps named “Doings in Derry”) to possibly include an electronic billboard to improve communication and awareness about local opportunities, events and news, including lists of available dining options with menus, like that created by Annie Campbell, 2. Develop an mechanism of support for local small businesses, artisans, and farms, 3. Begin planning for a “Sunday Stroll” as a first step in expanding on social and recreational activities available in town, 4. Develop mechanisms that welcome all residents, second home owners, and visitors, elaborating on the response of Geoff Hatheway, Owner/Manager of Magic Mountain Ski Area after the May 13th meeting. Each of these actions are intended to be starting points for projects that will be further developed in the longer term.

5. Planning Consultant Brandy Saxton was unable, because of her schedule, to deliver the next draft of the Bylaws by May 25th but expects to do so in the next week or two. We agreed to follow the schedule created earlier including posting the draft on the Town website immediately, Beta testing our various scenarios illustrating how the new Bylaws would work, seeking input from the citizens via mailed or website comments and a Zoom meeting. The goal would be to address concerns and refine the document for a final draft to be then reviewed by Mr. Fisher, the Town Attorney, and ratification afterword by the citizens and Selectboard. The grant completion date has been extended beyond July 1 due to conditions created by COVID19.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 PM.
7. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 9, 2020 with a time yet to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dick Dale