

**Town of Londonderry, Vermont**

**Planning Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, June 24, 2020 – 3:00 (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: Cindy Gubb

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:02. 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. Approval of Minutes for June 1, 8, 16, and 17, 2020 was added to the agenda (Dick moved; Dwight seconded) and approved unanimously.
3. There was no public comment.
4. The PC was polled for feedback received from the participants of the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. 2020 There were too few locals in attendance. The specific reasons why people were invited and what their roles might be and how they were expected to interact with the Planning Commission and possible budgetary implications was not really clear. In a very long letter sent to Larry and forwarded to Sharon, Bobby Gray was very concerned about the lack of focus on very fundamental objectives like long term goals, a real sense of town branding and identity for Londonderry, and too much focus on very short term, not well coordinated projects. He is interested in subjects like creating more Day Care opportunities and developing a much more detailed plan for what Londonderry wants to be and how the town should present itself to the world. He and others are concerned that there are many groups trying to improve the town, but they do not seem to relate to each other well if at all. The PC agreed that the Town Plan needs more flesh and detail to make its various actions associated with the vision for the town outlined there. Questions about who is responsible for initiating and bringing to fruition ideas and securing funding were raised by many responders. It was mentioned that programs like “Heart and Soul” and possible introduction of similar programs by the WRC could become a template for long term priorities. Finally, several people indicated that they were interested in promoting specific projects: Marge Fish for the Sunday Stroll; Bruce Frauman for working on improving communications; Susan Collins mentioned two young landscape architects just moved to town who could help with signage, the landscape and street view, and traffic pattern ideas; the Beautification Committee with redesigning the four signs entering Londonderry. After Elsie read the previously adopted mission statement for “Project Londonderry,” Cindy agreed to write out a new statement of vision and purpose. Elsie and Sharon agreed to work with Marge Fish and others to make the Sunday Stroll happen. Dick agreed to ask the Beautification Committee to design new town entry signs and develop a budget. Mimi, Lisa from Magic, and Bruce Frauman, Geoff Hathaway and Cindy will be asked to develop a resource guide. Dwight and Andrew agreed to work with the Selectboard to address the need to support local business now as the current pandemic has placed them at real risk of surviving and remaining in business beyond early September. Permanent shuttering of businesses like the American Grill, the Garden, Tammy and Mike’s, or Jake’s among others would be a disaster for the viability of the town.
5. Brandy Saxton had not delivered her proposed explanations and discussion of key points about the proposed Bylaw revision, but Sharon expected it soon and advised the PC to be on the lookout. It will mean a slight delay in the rollout to the citizens proposed on June 16<sup>th</sup>.
6. The next meeting is scheduled for July 1, 2020 at 9:30 by Zoom to continue the discussion around “Project Londonderry.”

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dick Dale