

Town of Londonderry, Vermont

**Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
Weds., July 13, 2020 – 5:00 (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, Andrew Rackear

Others Attending: Shane O’Keefe, Brandy Saxton, Paul Abraham, Gail Mann (at 6:00)

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:01. 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 July 1, 2020 as Amended was approved unanimously. (Larry moved, Elsie
3. There was no public comment.
4. Brandy reported that she had posted the videos of the explanations previously sent by PDF along with several maps using Google Earth that eventually will be searchable. It was suggested that a better explanation on how to use the maps from the website be more clearly expressed as that is the likely place where most people will start. Eventually, the whole Bylaw will be available in a searchable format, but for now, the purpose of the website is to encourage comments and questions. The Selectboard and DRB will be encouraged to begin to familiarize themselves with the proposal before the more formal ratification hearing process begins. Eventual ratification depends on the active support of the Selectboard and members of the DRB. Brandy pointed out that it usually takes two or more months before the public begins to more actively study the proposed Bylaws Draft, but that all comments need to be and will be tracked. To draw attention to the website, there needs to be a mailing, publicity related to social media and the newspapers, and repeated announcements at Selectboard meetings. Brandy will answer questions as she monitors the website over the next two to three months. She suggested that she was available, for additional money, to help out in September or October when the formal hearings might take place. She will also set up a Zoom Conference to record the thoughts and statements by each PC member previously prepared by Elsie intended to humanize and introduce the draft to the public. Shane announced that he is going through the whole draft as the Zoning Administrator for practical operational comments. Just before a ratification hearing is scheduled, the Town Attorney will eventually have to review the draft and the DRB will need to test out its use with several test cases.
5. Dick reported that the Beautification Committee has agreed to review the four signs entering town with respect to visibility, attractiveness, and appropriate design. They will propose a design and budget and report back to the PC. Work has been done to refine the Business Guide and the “Corona 19 Virus List” of opportunities for patronage in town. Mimi will continue to refine both lists and make sure that they are appropriately distributed around town to appropriate people including the Selectboard, Neighborhood Connections, Business leaders, and the Working Task Force. Elsie reported that a five-person committee to explore connecting and expanding the connectivity of the trails that already exist in town. Considerable energy and discussion about the need to organize and select an executive oversight committee. Susan Collins, Geoff Hathaway, Cindy Gubb, Jim Wilbur, Gail Mann will be approached to see if they would be willing to be on the Committee. The heads of the four projects listed in the Gubb plan along with members of the PC involved in each project will likely a part of the oversight committee. Gail Mann reported on several initiatives that she and Susan Collins have been exploring including encouraging Meghan, a professional urban landscape designer, to create some ideas of possible looks for the Villages expanding on the recently mailed by Larry of plans of the Mountain Valley Challenge. The Mail Street Project will take time to get refined and its task force will likely be pulled in several different directions including a search for private investment, expansion of child care, sidewalks, and branding for the town. Sharon will mail the letter listing the projects to the working group and especially request that it is time to get each task force populated with volunteers. The meeting of the working group is scheduled for 5:00 on August 5 by Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dick Dale