

Town of Londonderry, Vermont

**Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
Weds., August 5, 2020 – 5:00 (Zoom Meeting)**

Meeting held remotely via online video with no physical presence

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

Others Attending: Ester Fishman, Cindy Gubb, Bob Grey, Martha Dale, Tammy Moser, Richard Phelan, Bob Wells, Lisa Alberti, Pam Abraham, Susan Collins, Geoff Hathaway, Bruce Frauman, Gail Mann

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:03. 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. Sharon outlined the meeting goals which included reports by the four “Project Londonderry” Committees, establishing membership on each, and discussing goals and projects for each. The Main Street Group began. Membership now includes Larry Gubb, Mimi Lines, Geoff Hathaway, Bobby Grey, Richard Phelan, Gail Mann. The project seeks to examine a vision for the town, possibly adding sidewalks, signs and banners, improving the look of Mill Pond, Williams Park, Store Fronts, and figuring out ways to be more welcoming to visitors. Martha Dale reported that a Committee of three Beautification Committee members have begun to work with professional sign makers to create a design for the four town entry signs that would be attractive, visible and appropriately sized and to develop some preliminary costs. They have talked with Paul Gordon and will with Doug Frient. The Planning Committee had previously shared a number of potential ideas and the Committee will submit their findings back to the Planning Commission. The Recreation Working Group includes Larry Gubb, Elsie Smith, Marge Fish, Pam Abraham, Geoff Hathaway as a consultant, Gail Mann, and Martha Dale. They have begun collecting data about existing walking and bike trails to be eventually published in a brochure. They hope to put on an event to celebrate the multiple opportunities to enjoy walking and biking in town. Geoff Hathaway volunteered to offer several walking opportunities on Magic. The group will also include the new Nature Conserved Land and include Lowell Lake. The Economic Viability Committee includes Dwight Johnson, Andrew Rackear, Cindy Gubb, Geoff Hathaway, Susan Collins, and potentially several other business leaders. The goal is to work with WRC, Sevid, Housing Trusts, Brattleboro Redevelopment and others to develop a better environment for business success in town. They have begun to poll business leaders in town to discuss ideas, problems, and potential opportunities. The Communications Committee includes Elsie Smith, Lisa Alberti, Bruce Frauman, Richard Phelan, and Mimi Lines. The group hopes to gather stories about the town’s history and people in order to use them to create pride and develop who we are, “our heart soul.” Bob Grey suggested developing a plaque for each home in town discussing its history. Working with the LAHS, the group hopes to develop an oral history and set of historical pictures so that the town’s rich history is preserved. Cindy Gubb, Bob Wells and Elsie Smith have created a working group to create a basic statement of “branding” that captures the vision, purpose, and mission of the town. They will bring their thoughts back to the working group. Lastly, Sharon began a discussion around a core steering group for “Project Londonderry.” Elsie Smith volunteered to act as the administrator and coordinator for the steering group. Most thought that a Selectboard member or two needed to be a member along with younger people in town. There several suggestions and Ester Fishman will approach sever younger people to get them involved in anyone of the four areas or even Steering Committee.
3. The next meeting of “the Project Londonderry” working group was set for Sept. 2 by Zoom at 5:00.
4. The meeting was adjourned at 6:04.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dick Dale