

Town of Londonderry, Vermont

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

Weds., Sept. 8, 2020 – 1:00 (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: Cindy Gubb, Susan Collins, , Gail Mann

1. Meeting was called to order at 1:08. 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. Minutes of August 5 and 31 were approved unanimously. (Moved by Andrew, seconded by Elsie.)
3. The main purpose of the meeting was to begin to better coordinate the five working groups and prioritize fund raising, short term goals, and longer-term priorities. It was agreed that having a “Project Londonderry” 501 C-3 would be essential for fund raising and creating an independent from the Planning Commission entity. It will need a separate Board of Directors and Rob Wilmington will be asked to help getting it going. Andrew agreed to head up the PC effort. The Selectboard will have to give approval for the effort and for any grant application. There is a distinct opportunity to apply for a Municipal Planning Grant to help fund various improvement efforts. There is a need to develop a Master Plan building on the effort of Susan Collins, Gail Mann, and Jim Wilber. There is a need to develop a separate Private Investor Group allied with, but independent of the “Project Londonderry” effort. Gail share four maps of a design for four phases of potential development (recreational opportunities, Business ideas, Commercial Opportunities, and expanded housing and night life opportunities. The maps were really visually impressive. The group has been working with the Southern Vermont Municipal Development Group from North Bennington which has been working for three years to develop North Bennington. The WRC might be able to assist in developing a Master Plan for Project Londonderry building on the four maps. Mimi had previously shared her extensive conversations with Rebecca Stone as a possible consultant to help get “Project Londonderry” more focused. Such a coordinator will be important going forward, much like the process of revising the Zoning Bylaws. Elsie, Mimi, and Sharon agreed to work on a Municipal Planning Grant to fund both a coordinator and some of the costs of various projects.
4. The next meeting of Planning Committee was set for Sept. 14, 2020 at 5:00. Elsie will set up the zoom meeting and the Agenda needs to be posted by Sept. 12, 2020.
5. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dick Dale