

Town of Londonderry, Vermont

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

Tues., Oct. 13, 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
Others Attending: Gail Mann, Gary Kleinman, Richard Phalen, Cindy Gubb, Marge Fish, Ester Fishman, Jenna Kolosk (VCRD), Nick Kramer (VCRD), Paul Costello (VCRD), Nicole Wengerd, Geoff Hathaway, Bruce Frauman

1. Meeting was called to order at 1:07. 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. Jenna, Paul, and Nick explained what the Vermont Council on Rural Development is, how it works with towns, and the resources it can offer to towns (over seventy-five to date) along with experts and politicians from the State. They need to be formally invited to participate by the Town Selectboard, but are very good at engaging the community with its many normally uncommunicating silos of citizens in engaging in a coordinated revitalization of the Town similar to the "Project Londonderry" effort. They assist the Town's citizens in creating a common vision, developing citizen generated goals, and developing effective time-lines for implementation. The VCRD group help invite and engage disparate groups of citizens in reinventing a plan for economic viability and facilitating good, productive discussion. After listening and talking about the goals and objectives for "Project Londonderry" and the progress made to date, the VCRD group felt that they could be particularly useful in promoting dialogue among the Town's different silos of citizens. Sharon wanted to get buy in, by telephone conversations, from Dwight, Andrew, and Mimi (who left early) to appeal to the Selectboard for permission to work with the VCRD, but all those in attendance felt strongly that the communications piece would be very important in gaining a broad network and town wide measure of support for any initiative generated by "Project Londonderry." Those who attended the meeting felt that with the VCRD group, the development of a "Master Plan," and the organizational framework provided by the "Concord, Mass." Model, that there would be a robust organizational framework to develop and bring into fruition any plans developed by "Project Londonderry" in both the short and long term.
3. Sharon agreed to send the Webinar from Tripp Muldrow discussing a "Planning Tool Kit" for economic development and Town Revitalization
4. There was considerable discussion by Nicole about the initiatives and identified problem areas like the need for housing, transportation issues, and various social needs in town.
5. The next meeting of Planning Committee was set for Nov. 9, 2020 at 5:00.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00.

Respectfully Submitted, Dick Dale
Dick Dale