

Town of Londonderry, Vermont

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

Mon., Sept. 11, 2023 – 3:30 PM

Twitchell Building

Attending: Commission Members: Sharon Crossman, Elsie Smith, Dick Dale, Mimi Lines, Larry Gubb, Heather Stephson, Maryann Morris arrived at 4:15. Guests: Paul Hendler

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:35 PM.
2. Additions to the Agenda: Heather agreed to discuss the new Owl audio and visual digital hook up and explain the advantages of the Zoom based system.
3. Minutes of the Planning Commission meeting August 28, 2023 was unanimously approved. (Sharon proposed, Elsie seconded.)
4. Heather explained the advantages of the new system using an owl hook up which she had spent several hours researching, setting up, and understanding the significant advantages of using the owl hook up as the new Planning Commission's hybrid system. In the next meeting, she will offer a summary on how to set it up using the computer and TV screen. She suggested that the application "Meeting Owl" should be down loaded by the members for interactive access remotely. The whole system can be set up in a remote location allowing pictures of the members and public to be viewed and heard with great clarity and ease. There are many options to record and store documents and files on the system for recall and broadcast, as well as the capacity for remote people to interact with the meeting. She will summarize some of the recording capabilities at the next meeting after reviewing the State regulations governing remote hybrid meetings. The Planning Commission has its own user name: Planning Com. Everyone was impressed by the opportunities to more effectively interact with the public and all expressed their thanks to Heather for her excellent work.
5. A. Before the start of the meeting, Heather loaded up the link to the latest map produced after the hearing. The sub-committee of Mimi, Elsie, and Sharon will make sure that all changes to an older hard copy map are circled and noted so that they can be sent to Brandy Saxton per her request. A quick check indicated that the dark green of the old resource protection district needed to be changed to the light green of the rural three district. The only change not reflected in the latest map was the two split properties on Middletown Road be put into the R-3 district which will happen when the Natural Protection district become R-3. The sub-committee will research the need to include the current conservation overlay with its addition rules for subdivisions that currently exist needed to be added to the new official map to be included with the new proposed bylaws.
B. Sharon reminded all that she and Shane were meeting with Stevens Associates to clarify the scope and details associated with the South Londonderry vision project similar to the North Village Main Street Plan.
C. Maryann reviewed the status of the Housing Committee by outlining some of the preliminary models of organizing the project and work plan. The meeting on Thursday will begin to further develop the work plan and prioritize various parts of the work.
D. Larry reviewed the progress and challenges of continuing to press forward with satisfying the time-line of the grant proposals. He indicated good progress, but noted that any lands which needed to be purchased had to be completed by the end of the year. Progress has been made to investigate the total capacity that might be available in both towns which should lead to some preliminary designs and cost estimates. He and Sharon were very hopeful.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45.
7. The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be on Sept. 25 at the Twitchell Building at 3:30. It will also be a hybrid meeting. Neither Dick nor Elsie will be able to attend, so a suggestion was made to record the meeting on the owl system.

Respectfully Submitted:

Dick Dale