



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON HOUSING COMMISSION

March 23, 2022, 6:00PM

Syd Crook Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Nichols, Amy Kaplan, Winfried Feneberg, Marilyn Kidder

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Vannatta, Randy Foose, Steve Theroux, Tim Lund, Nancy Rollins

1. Call to Order – Peter Nichols called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. Approve minutes of January 26, 2022 and February 16, 2022

IT WAS MOVED (Amy Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Marilyn Kidder) to accept the minutes of the January 26, 2022 meeting. THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED (Amy Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Marilyn Kidder) to accept the minutes of the February 16, 2022 meeting. Winfried Feneberg abstained from the vote. THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED.

3. Housing Survey

Outreach strategy – Chair Nichols stated he would like to put a plan together for outreach. He stated he had previously proposed the concept of doing interviews. He would like to discuss if they should be individual one on one interviews or if the commission would invite representatives of different components of the community to come talk to them. This could be standardized or to just get a feel for their perspectives. Marilyn Kidder asked if the outreach was to gather information or to inform. Chair Nichols stated in his opinion, we are in the listening stage and would be gathering information. Another effective method is focus groups and these are led by a neutral party and attended by small groups that are representative of the demographic you are trying to understand. A follow up report is then generated about what ideas came forth. Community forums are also another option to consider and talking with developers and builders would also be beneficial.

Winfried Feneberg envisions starting by inviting a few people in to have a conversation and go through the survey. This would allow the commission members to get more familiar with the types of questions and concerns out there about the survey. If that goes well then each of the commission members could do individual interviews. This could be done with both employer's groups and resident groups. If we have specific questions, they could be given out to people ahead of time so they have time to think about it. It is our responsibility to explain what is possible for housing options. Groups to start with would be Blue Loon, Tucker's, Morgan Hill bookstore, Colby Sawyer College, New London Hospital, Hannaford, Lake Sunapee VNA, Banks, COA, the town of New London and the School district.

Survey Poster/Handout Distribution – Chair Nichols distributed the flier for the commission to review. He obtained information from the Shopper regarding deadlines for submission and pricing.

He submitted the advertisement to the Shopper today so it will be in next weeks' edition. The ad can be revised for future submissions and Marilyn Kidder agreed to work on this.

Town Website Graphic – Chair Nichols distributed a printout of the front page of the town website. Kim Hallquist is proposing that they put information under the public notice block which is at the top center of the page and the commission came up with the language to explain the purpose of the survey. In that block will be the two links to the survey, one for employers and one for the general public. It will go right to the Upper valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission Keys to the Valley survey monkey.

To get the word out about the survey, it was suggested that information be provided to Municipal Matters, Intertown Record, the Shopper, the Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary, the town's Facebook page and Bulletin boards around town. They could also do radio ads/interviews and the bigger employers could distribute to their employees.

4. Comments and New Business

Chair Nichols distributed a copy of the approved strategic plan to commission members. He felt it would be helpful to go over it at a future meeting.

5. Proposed Future Meeting

The Housing Commission agreed to hold their next meeting on April 6, 2022.

6. Motion to Adjourn

IT WAS MOVED (Marilyn Kidder) AND SECONDED (Amy Kaplan) to adjourn the meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 7:33PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Trina Dawson

Recording Secretary
Town of New London