



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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**New London Planning Board
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 13, 2021
Digital – only meeting via Zoom
6:30 PM**

Due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this Board is authorized to meet electronically. The public has access to contemporaneously listen and participate in this meeting through the video conferencing platform Zoom.us.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Gorman (Chair, voting), Paul Vance (voting), Marianne McEnrue (voting) Joe Kubit (voting), David Royle (voting), Tim Paradis (voting), Katie Vedova, Janet Kidder (Selectmen's Representative)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeremy Bonin

OTHERS PRESENT: Adam Ricker, Nancy Marashio, Tom Vannatta, Donna Sparks, Harvey Pine, Susan Cox, Don Cox, John Doyle, Katie Matthew, Jackson Walker

1. **Call to Order** - Chair Gorman called the meeting to order and read the zoom authorization information.
2. **Review of minutes: March 23, 2021**

IT WAS MOVED (Janet Kidder) AND SECONDED (David Royle) to accept the minutes of the March 23, 2021 meeting. THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. Paul Vance: yes, David Royle: yes, Janet Kidder: yes, Joe Kubit: yes, Marianne McEnrue: yes, Tim Paradis: yes, Paul Gorman: yes.

3. **Public Comment-**

Donna Sparks attended the meeting to present a public comment that was written jointly by neighbors and owners of property directly abutting the Barn Playhouse. They are asking that the Barn's proposed change of use be subject to the same consideration as similar change of use applications that have recently come before the Planning Board.

Concerns that Ms. Sparks discussed included neighbors not being notified in advance of expanded programming or year round use, changes to the site plan, parking, the impact to character and quality of life in the neighborhood, water runoff, drainage and sound and lighting. Ms. Sparks stated an open discussion of these critical matters should be held at a publicized hearing. The Barn should then adjust some of their plans in order to mitigate any adverse impact on the community and to protect the Everett Park neighborhood.

Chair Gorman responded that the Board accepts these comments and the issues that have been raised will be discussed at a later date.

Housing Commission - Tom Vannatta, Chair of the Housing Commission attended the Planning Board meeting to provide information about the Housing commission and what

their mission is. The Housing Commission is new and was set up by the Board of Selectmen. The Housing Commission is made up of 7 full members, 2 alternate members and a Board of Selectman representative. The Commission's purpose is to be an advocacy group for the development of a variety of housing within our region. They recently adopted their rules of procedure. Their mission is to provide proper recognition, promotion, enhancement, encouragement and development of a balanced and diverse supply of housing to meet the economic, social and physical needs of a municipality and its residents. Part of their charge is to work along with the Boards and the community to share thoughts and promotions with them.

4. Messer Pond Protective Association

John Doyle, President of the Messer Pond Protective Association attended the meeting to follow up on the status of watershed grant work that was discussed in a meeting held in March with Town Planner, Adam Ricker. Mr. Ricker felt it was important to update the Planning Board on the plans and progress of the grants. Two students of the Colby Sawyer Community Based Research course are also in attendance tonight. Messer Pond has been the focus of research for the course for the past two semesters.

Culvert replacement work was done on Forest Acres road last year. The focus this summer/fall will be to accomplish the following three tasks::

1. Addressing storm water runoff and ditch erosion that is occurring at the intersection of Fieldstone Lane and County Road.
2. Reduce sediment loading in a stream crossing on Bog Road
3. Go back to Forest Acres Road to evaluate the performance of the vegetative buffering that was installed there with the culverts as well as replace and repair what is needed.

Selectman Kidder asked Mr. Doyle about a survey that was going to be done regarding septic systems around the pond. Has this been completed? Mr. Doyle stated this was done and results had been presented to the Board at one time. There were about 20 responses to that survey and he will forward this information to Selectman Kidder. Several Colby Sawyer students also did a survey on septic systems and also have done a lot of education and outreach along the lines of residential storm water runoff.

Katie Matthew and Jackson Walker attended the meeting. They are both students in the Community Based Research class at Colby Sawyer College and provided an update on water sampling. The data analysis group looks for trends within the tributaries and deep sites focusing on the comparison between the fall and spring semester to identify seasonal impacts on Messer Pond. They also analyzed soil and samples of road salts and did GIS work. They are gathering data to provide a final presentation on April 26, 2021 via zoom.

Chair Gorman thanked Mr. Doyle for the work that he is doing and thanked the Colby Sawyer students for their presentation. It is a great project and is having a positive impact on the Messer Pond watershed.

5. Bicycle & Pedestrian

Selectman Kidder stated that Russel Moore reached out to her regarding his interest in collecting information around town to gauge the level of activity with regards to walking and biking. He wants ideas on how to reach out to people to ascertain if people are interested in more walking and biking trails. Selectman Kidder stated they discussed sending a survey

through survey monkey to get information but they would have to pay for that. Marianne McEnrue stated survey monkey is free but after discussion it was determined there may be limitations with the free survey. Tim Paradis stated there may be some online alternatives to this that could work. Selectman Kidder will have Mr. Moore reach out to Town Planner Adam Ricker for more direction to help with this. Katie Vedova suggested doing a survey through the schools. Adam Ricker proposed the idea of doing a study (parking and traffic). This would entail putting proposals out and putting it in the budget.

6. Other Business

Selectman Kidder noted that Chair Gorman did a good job presenting the Planning Board's position on the Capital Improvement Program at the recent Board of Selectman's meeting. The recommendation to keep the CIP process under the purview of the Planning Board was supported by the Selectmen.

7. Future Meeting Dates – The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 27, 2021.

8. Motion to Adjourn

IT WAS MOVED (Marianne McEnrue) AND SECONDED (Katie Vedova) to adjourn. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. Paul Vance: yes, David Royle: yes, Janet Kidder: yes, Tim Paradis: yes, Paul Gorman: yes, Joe Kubit: yes, Marianne McEnrue: yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45PM

Respectfully submitted,

Trina Dawson

Recording Secretary
Town of New London