



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON HOUSING COMMISSION

June 6, 2022, 6:00PM

Whipple Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Nichols, Amy Kaplan, Tom Vannatta, Marilyn Kidder, Steve Theroux, Winfried Feneberg

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tim Lund, Randy Foose

OTHERS PRESENT: Nancy Rollins, Selectman, Kim Hallquist, Town Administrator

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

New Panel Planning

Chair Nichols stated he will be meeting with Kim Hallquist, Mark Fougere and Adam Ricker to go over the upcoming schedule related to town meeting. It will be important for the Commission to be aware of timelines for any amendments and to allow time for community forums. By September they should start to have more discussions with the community. Amy Kaplan asked if there was agreement that zoning changes are wanted and they would be educating people on what those changes are. Chair Nichols responded yes, the primary focus is to come up with regulatory changes and that is the direction we should be headed.

The Commission discussed the planning of another panel discussion; what do they hope to learn? In past discussions, it was suggested that this panel include developers, architects, engineers, and attorneys. Chair Nichols also suggested including newer New London residents. Winfried Feneberg asked what would be gained from newer residents versus established residents. Chair Nichols responded to better define this maybe they would ask “what brought you here?” Why are newer residents moving to New London and seeking jobs here? This information could help to better understand the housing situation. Mr. Feneberg feels that gathering the first group of people mentioned (developers, engineers, and architects) makes sense because these are the people of that would actually do something about it. This would give more direct feedback. A mixed panel of local builders as well as developers that have gone through the process already would be ideal. It would also be nice to know what incentives are needed to do workforce housing in New London. Showing photos of projects that have been done would be helpful so people can see what options there are. There should also be discussion about how projects are funded and made affordable, and this includes a combination of state funding, grants and tax credits.

Town Administrator Kim Hallquist stated the town has become aware that Twin Pines has filed an application for funding for a workforce housing project in New London; she is not sure how long the funding application process takes or when they might make an application to the town.

NLHC Web Page – Social Media Proposal

Chair Nichols circulated the social media proposal from Abby Peel which provides details for creating a website. The Commission also discussed creating a Facebook page that would be connected to the town website. This would be a way to stimulate public engagement. The group discussed these ideas. Winfried Feneberg stated that the school district utilizes social media and it is a good way to reach a large number of people. In his opinion, a Facebook page must be actively monitored and this can be time consuming so it's good to have someone specifically assigned to do that. Although a Facebook page is more active and engaging than a webpage it cannot be left unattended.

At this point, Mr. Feneberg would suggest doing a website that posts information that educates the public about what they are doing. Ms. Hallquist stated the Housing Commission already has a page so people could access it through the town website. This page includes the commission member's names and has the meeting minutes and agendas. Ms. Hallquist also noted that *Municipal Matters* gets circulated regularly and can include pictures and articles which could contain a link to send people over to the website for more information. The commission agreed to start using the webpage on the town's website as a first step.

Future Matters:

- **Master Plan Review** – Chair Nichols would like to review the Master Plan at some point.
- **Path to Town Meeting** – Chair Nichols, Mark Fougere, Adam Ricker and Kim Hallquist will meet to review the schedule leading up to town meeting 2023.

Future Meeting: The next meeting will be held on June 29, 2022.

Adjournment:

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:31PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Trina Dawson

Recording Secretary
Town of New London