



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON HOUSING COMMISSION

July 27, 2022, 6:00PM

Whipple Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Nichols, Amy Kaplan, Tom Vannatta, Marilyn Kidder, Michael Quinn, Randy Foose, Steve Theroux, Nancy Rollins

MEMBERS ABSENT: Winfried Feneberg

OTHERS PRESENT: Nancy Rollins, Selectman; Kim Hallquist, Town Administrator; Mark Fougere, Consultant

Call to Order – Chair Nichols called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

Review of Minutes - June 6, 2022 and June 29, 2022

IT WAS MOVED (Amy Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Tom Vannatta) to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2022 meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED. Randy Foose abstained from the vote.

IT WAS MOVED (Amy Kaplan) AND SECONDED (Marilyn Kidder) to approve the minutes of the June 29, 2022 meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED. Randy Foose abstained from the vote.

Chair Nichols reported that Timothy Lund has decided at the end of his term that he will resign and will not renew as a Housing Commission member. Chair Nichols stated Mr. Lund has been immensely helpful on this commission with his attendance and insights. He also was instrumental in helping with press releases and coordinating the employer panel which was a success.

IT WAS MOVED (Randy Foose) AND SECONDED (Marilyn Kidder) to have a motion of appreciation and gratitude for Tim Lund. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

Chair Nichols noted that he spoke with Mr. Lund and he offered to continue to help for a short time with press releases and is available by phone if needed. Chair Nichols stated if the Commission knows of anyone that would be a strong and helpful participant on the Housing Commission to please pass their name along for review. Chair Rollins noted that it was helpful to have Mr. Lund on the Commission because he represented New London Hospital. She wondered if New London Hospital CEO Tom Manion has any suggestions for a replacement for Mr. Lund. Chair Nichols will follow up with Mr. Manion. Mr. Lund may have some ideas as well.

NH State Infrastructure Grant

Chair Nichols stated that there was a webinar today hosted by the NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs titled “InvestNH Municipal Grant Programs”. Once Mark Fougere and Michael Quinn have a chance to watch it, they will report back to the group. There is another webinar titled

“What Local Land Use Boards Need to Know” that will be held on August 10, 2022. These will be recorded, and Chair Nichols encouraged everyone to watch them if they have the time.

Developer Panel

Chair Nichols reported that Andrew Winter, Harry Snow and Sheldon Pennoyer are all available on September 14, 2022 but Wheeler Hall is not available that night. Chair Nichols noted that he likes the Colby-Sawyer environment because it sends the message of academics and professionalism. There is also nice ambiance and comfort. Other options for a venue for the developer panel discussion are the Professional Development Center or Whipple Hall. There was discussion of who could act as moderator in the event that Mark Fougere is unable attend; it was agreed that Michael Quinn will step in as moderator if needed. The panel discussion will begin at 6:00pm.

Chair Nichols discussed having an architect, Sheldon Pennoyer attend the developer panel instead of NeighborWorks since we already have a non-profit developer, Twin Pines, attending.

Chair Nichols distributed a draft press release which he titled “The Future of Workforce Housing in New London”. The panel would discuss what workforce housing looks like in New England and discuss changes necessary for it to be built over time in New London. The Commission will also ask the panel to discuss their role in the workforce housing development process and how they do it.

Panel questions include what types of housing best fit the need for workforce housing in New England, how do you address the balance of density vs. aesthetics and the preservation of the character of the town. We would also want to ask what the biggest obstacles are for developing workforce housing in New England and how they were addressed. How do they work with a community in resolving the developing program and design considerations and what zoning provisions seems to be most effective in attracting and facilitating workforce housing development. The group decided to focus more on what workforce housing can look like in general.

Marilyn Kidder suggested putting together a quick description of the panelists as this would be helpful for the audience to understand who they are. She also stressed that advertising for the event needs to be done. It was suggested that an ad be placed in the shopper for August 31 and September 7 publications and also be advertised on the town website, *Intertown Record* and *Municipal Matters*.

Future Meetings:

September 7, 2022

September 14, 2022 – panel discussion option

September 21, 2022

September 28, 2022

The two September meetings after the panel discussion will be used to review regulatory changes and zoning changes with Mark Fougere. The goal is to bring any amendments to the Planning Board for review in October.

IT WAS MOVED (Steve Theroux) 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