

Lyme Community Development Committee
March 14, 2018
7 PM
Town Office Conference Room
Approved

Present: Mike Smith, Earl Strout, Rich Brown, Nils Johnson, Jonathan Voegele, Susan MacKenzie.

Members of the Public: Phil Barta, Ray Clark, Dan Brand, Jaxone Morgon, Aaron Rich, Barbara Woodard, Jonathan Masland, Matt Stevens, Margaret Stevens, Duncan MacIntosh, Meg Sheehan.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

Review of Town Meeting: Complimented on preparation and slides, enthusiasm of Lyme residents, staying to the end of meeting. Successful meeting. We need to maintain that enthusiasm throughout the year. Younger people are running for office.

Minutes from 2/21/18 Approved

Steering committee: Reviewed previous "Visioning process", surveys and gatherings. The need for water and sewage capabilities. Most of the Public expressed interest in being on the steering committee. Need to go into the process without preconceived ideas. Very important to involve as many residents as possible.

- * Ray Clark asked about the Master Plan, The Master Plan is, by law, the responsibility of the Planning Board. He feels we need cautious, well thought out plans going forward.
- * The Committee has met with developers who discussed their reluctance to come to Lyme.
- * Duncan feels the growth in Lyme has been astounding and he can no longer afford his taxes. He expressed concerns about the school.
- * Meg asked about developing the Master Plan, and other means of increasing revenues. A suggestion was made to put a toll booth on River Road.
- * Question: what is allowed in terms of zoning changes and who can make them.
- * Taxes are the main concern of everyone at this meeting.
- * Rich expressed support for this committee's efforts toward doing a "visioning."
- * Mike expressed concern about the lack of internet services in Lyme.
- * Sense of the meeting that all in visioning process be residents of Lyme.
- * Duncan expressed concern about taxes stating it is causing him to consider selling his house and moving.
- * Motion made to create a steering committee of 9-11 people that will design the visioning process. That process must involve as many residents as possible. All meetings are open and all are welcome to attend. Passed unanimously.
- * A request was made to put out an RFP to seek the best consultant for the visioning process.
- * \$15K has been raised to pay for the consultant services.
- * Many questions about how best to assemble the information needed.
- * The Select Board has tasked this committee with finding a way to broaden the tax base.
- * The Charge for this committee may need to be broadened beyond increasing businesses.
- * Committee agreed to develop an RFP for a consultant to be presented to the next meeting.

- * How many visioning meetings do we need, where to hold them. 2-3 meetings, hold them at the Church, LCAB and or school. Hopefully completed by mid-summer.
- * Can we do another bond? No, we have nearly reached the capacity to repay a bond.
- * Long discussion of the possibility to get money from Great River Hydro.
- * RFP to be developed by Nils Johnson and Phil Barta.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM

Next meeting 3/28/18, 7 PM

Respectfully submitted

/s/ Susan MacKenzie

Attached is the link to Youtube video of the meeting: <https://youtu.be/4r0dyGgLBHU>