

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
JANUARY 10, 2018
7 PM Town Office Conference Room
Minutes
Approved

Present: Nils Johnson, Mike Smith, Chris Ramsden, Earl Strout, Jon Voegelé, Sue MacKenzie

NOTE: Joint Meeting with the Planning Board: Jan 25, 2018, 7 PM Please be there.

Meeting called to order at 7 PM

Nils started with a summary of the past few months activities.

*Meeting with Julia Griffith, Hanover Town Manager: Gile Hill Development with 116 units, only an additional 16 students added to the school.

*Steve Schneider, Director of the UVLSRPC: Endorsed the Visioning process for Lyme to inform about the Tax base issue and hear from the Town Resident.

*Ann Duncan Cooley, Chair of the Grafton County Development Committee: Wants to work with Lyme on our issues. Suggested hiring Steve Arnett as a consultant.

*Jeff Sawicke, UNH Extension, Visioning and Planning: not viable at this time.

* Hanover Chamber Of Commerce: Join with them to assist businesses.

All agree we need to identify the problem first, (tax base)

*Meeting with Kevin Purcell: They are interested in doing something with the Pond View property. They want to work with a developer and Lyme to create something that would work for all.

*Rob Myer: Has worked in Lyme before and had difficulty with moving forward due to zoning and does not want to have to work in that environment again. But if the Town was favorable might be interested. Zoning is part of the issue here as well.

Needs/thoughts: Transportation, mixed use properties, not rentals, **Cell and internet connectivity**, (possible Comcast)

Chip Brown, Developer: discussed possibilities for the Pond View Property and the impact it would have on the tax base.

Discussed looking at the Skyway and renegotiating that agreement.

Shortage of workers and housing for them. As the Upper Valley becomes wealthier, lower income residents are being pushed out, which decreases the labor pool.

There is a need for 5000 housing units in the Upper valley.

Problem getting all sectors of society to participate in the Visioning Process. Would need to enlist Those Guys and CCL.

Question was raised: What is the possibility of spending less.

What is the possibility of increasing Tourism in Lyme, biking, skiing, river and ponds, and how to convert that into taxes. How to increase second homes? How to improve existing entities. Developing a retreat/meeting center in Lyme. How do we get people to Lyme and how do we monetize that.

Discussed the Planning Board's request to due a "build out" for the Common District on Lyme. Also the Senior/elderly draft proposal.

Asking non profits for a "pilot payment" in lieu of taxes.

Committee feels we should raise private money to hire a consultant to help with the visioning and planning process. Jon and Chris will contact the Lyme Foundation to see if they would act as a vehicle to facilitate this action. Sue will get the Select Board approval to hire a consultant with private funds. (approved 1-11-18 SB meeting)
Estimate of \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Suggestion made to start a Foundation in Lyme to receive donations and/or inheritances to offset taxes with the interest generated.

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Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Next meeting February 21, 2108 at 7 PM

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Respectfully submitted

/s/ Susan MacKenzie