Lyme Planning Board Minutes
4/9/2026

Board Members and Staff Present: Richard Menge Chair; Vicki Smith, Vice Chair; David Kahn, Select Board Representative; Nathaniel Niles, Member; Jeff Valance, Member; Rich Brown, Alternate; Hebe Quinton, Alternate; David Robbins, Planning and Zoning Administrator.

Board Members Absent: None

Members of the Public Present: none

Item 1: Acceptance of minutes from 3/26/2026
Rich Brown moved to approve the minutes as amended.
Vicki Smith seconded the motion.
Rich Menge called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 2: Election of officers.
Nat Niles moved to appoint Rich Menge as the Chair and Vicki Smith as Vice Chair for a term of one year.
David Kahn seconded the motion.
Rich Menge called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
Item 3: Meeting procedures.
Chair Menge proposed new meeting procedures to ensure that meetings were productive and discussions were respectful to the members. The procedures included setting time limits for discussion, being recognized by the Chair before speaking and being respectful to each other.

Item 4: Regional Planning Commission Transportation priorities.
The regional planning commission requested feedback about priorities of the four state transportation projects listed below.

1. Calm vehicular traffic and improve pedestrian crossing safety where traffic enters the Lyme Common area.
2. Improve pedestrian and bicycle access and safety across the Lyme-Thetford Bridge.
3. Install public electric vehicle chargers in the vicinity of the Lyme Green.
4. Construct 5-foot bicycle shoulders along NH Route 10 north of the Lyme Green through Orford and Piermont.

The Board concluded that numbers 1 and 4 were high priority, Number 3 was important but not a high priority. The Board felt that item # 2 was extremely important but given the design of the current bridge and its historic designation that it is unrealistic to add a pedestrian/ bike path such as the one on the Piermont/ Bradford bridge, They also felt that some of the other alternatives such as one way traffic with traffic lights or pedestrian/bike

warning lights may decrease safety in other ways such as backing up traffic on blind corners at either end of the bridge.

The Planning and Zoning Administrator will provide the feedback to the Regional Planning Commission.

Item 5: Zoning Amendment discussions.
The Planning and Zoning administrator described some issues with the Agricultural Soils Conservation District, Planned Development and Conversion section of the ordinance. The Board did not take any action.

The Board decided to reserve time for the Zoning Board Members to attend the meeting on the fourth Thursday to discuss issues with the Zoning Ordinance.

Item 6: New Business.
The Board discussed dates that they could take Tim Cook out to dinner in recognition of his many years of service on the Planning Board.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
David A. Robbins
Lyme Planning and Zoning Administrator.