

NEWFANE PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location: Newfane Town Hall

Meeting Date: January 12, 2015

Attendees:	Gary Delius, Ed Druke, George Friend, Tristam Johnson, Pat Weisbrich		
Absent:	None	DRB Attendees:	None
Zoning Admin.:	None	Public Attendees:	None

DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ACTIONS

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:14 p.m. Attendees as noted above.
- II. Review and Approve Minutes:
 - a. Minutes from the Planning Commission meeting on November 10, 2014 were reviewed. The meeting date was recorded in error and changed to reflect it was the minutes from the November 10, 2014 meeting. A motion was made by Gary and seconded by Ed to approve the revised minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
- III. Review Agenda and approve the agenda: An item was added to the Agenda to discuss the possibility of moving the meeting night to the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. A motion was made by Ed and seconded by Pat. The revised agenda was approved unanimously.
- IV. Recognize members of the public: None

OLD BUSINESS

- V. Creating a new Town Plan
 - a. Responses and comments on board survey:
 - i. A limited amount of discussion ensued regarding PC members skills, strengths and interests. The discussion turned toward the willingness of PC members to undertake the re-writing of the Town Plan. At this point in time, Tristam, Gary, George and Pat are willing to forge ahead to re-write the Town Plan.
 - b. Discussion regarding finding a willing note taker and compensation for such a position
 - i. Though the position has been advertised in the past, there have been no applicants to date. The concept of a PC member taking notes for minutes preparation effectively removes that member from participating in the discussion. A compensation disparity exists depending on whether or not the note taker is a PC member, an issue that is yet to be resolved. In the meantime, the position will be advertised again to a broader audience in the hopes of attracting applicants
 - c. Review member observations and ideas for Town Plan redesign
 - ◆ A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the division of the Town based on personalities. The viability of the creation process and how to redirect these differences to address issues was discussed.
 - ◆ It appears the best time to introduce the residents of Newfane to the concept of incorporating active participation in Town Plan revision is at Town Meeting Day in March.
 - ◆ In preparation for the January 27, 2015 meeting, Planning Commission members agreed to read the following sections in preparation for a discussion at the next meeting:
 1. Transportation
 2. Community Goals

- VII. Gary's report from meeting with Windham Regional Commission in South Londonderry

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- ◆ Meeting purpose was to celebrate the acquisition of the village Center designation. Having such a designation allows South Londonderry access to tax incentives and grants not available to towns without Village Center designation
- ◆ Village Center Designation provides a mechanism to bring dollars back to the community for business and property within the radius of the designation

NEW BUSINESS

VIII. Notes and Communications from the Selectboard

- a. Budget format reviewed and approved by all members.
- b. Change of meeting day to 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. Motion to approve made by Tristram and seconded by Gary, motion passed unanimously.

IX. Next meeting: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 7 p.m., at the Newfane Town Hall.

X. Move to adjourn at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Weisbrich

Patricia H. Weisbrich