

**PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING
TOWN OF LITCHFIELD**

Held on November 21, 2017

minutes approved on 12/5/2017

The Litchfield Planning Board held a meeting in the Town Hall conference room, 2 Liberty Way, Litchfield, NH 03052 on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Croteau - Vice Chairman, Joe Blanchette, Tyler Perrin, Kurt Schaefer (Selectmen's Rep.), Kimberly Queenan - Clerk, Dave Samuel

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Joan McKibben (P.B. Admin. Assistant), Jen Czysz (Assistant Director NRPC)

Community Design sub-committee members: Gail Barringer, Steven Calawa, Heidi Hale Miller

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Croteau called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call of members.

Public Input: No Public input on non-agenda items.

Community Design Chapter - Master Plan

The committee led by Jen went over more design ideas for Litchfield focusing on town center, open space, and agriculture.

Heidi had taken pictures of gazebos Heidi, Gail and Steven said that Merrimack is planning a town park across the river from the Litchfield Fire Station for a length along the river and it would be a wonderful idea if Litchfield could do the same as the town owns all the land from the Library south to the Apartments on the river side, minus the church riverside cottage. Heidi mentions there were funds left over from the town's 275th anniversary that committee thought the money could go towards a gazebo. Several sites were talked about for a gazebo. Gail: If it was large enough you could hold mini-concerts.

Signs were discussed it is important to design signs so people will not get sign fatigue or sign pollution.

Open Space

Dave S. commented on open space where people have community gathering area, we need the feel of a town center.

Darrah Pond was mentioned as a gathering area, it has the town beach which needs some TLC, winter sports, ice skating

Area in front of town hall that has a gazebo was mentioned as community area.

Jen: We need to include documentation of what we have.

You can have more than one town center area for folks to gather in.

Wildlife

Kim submitted pictures of what we like about Litchfield (the wildlife). There should be an overall balance between green environment and built infrastructure.

Historic Buildings

Many pictures received on this topic. Dave S. likes the broken roof lines and setbacks. Gail B. If the new fire station passes town meeting the old fire station could be well utilized. Mike C. Talked about the preservation of old barns on Route 3A, he also spoke of a grant to save old barns.

Agriculture

Kim Q.: Having the pick your own produce in town promotes healthy living.

Dave S.: Agro-tourism helps in making the farms economically viable. It is unfortunate that we have no one from the Ag. community on the committee.

Joan mentions that in lieu of the farmers we should perhaps contact coop extension, the farm bureau or dept. of agriculture resources.

New Community Facilities

There were several slides on different ideas for seniors, youth, club activities, meeting rooms.

Dave S.: Is solar something we want to encourage for the visual preference survey?
Visual preference survey might include solar, signs, setbacks.

Next Steps:

Jen proposes starting to compile information into a chapter and image pairing with policy statement goals. Next meeting Jen will have a draft of a visual preference survey.

The next meeting for the community design chapter will be January 16, 2018.

Planning Board Officers

Joe B. **nominated** Mike Croteau for chairman. Dave S. seconds the nomination.
Motion passes 5-0-1.

Dave S. **nominated** Kim Queenan for vice-chairman. Joe B. seconds the nomination.
Motion passes 5-0-1.

Dave S. **nominated** Joe Blanchette for clerk. Tyler P. second the nomination.
Motion passes 5-0-1.

There were no other nominations from the floor.

Approval of Minutes

Kim makes a MOTION to accept the Nov. 7 minutes as written. Tyler seconds the motion.
Motion passes 5-0-1.

Any Other Business

Kim will be going to the Selectmen's meeting on Monday to explain the Heritage Commission.

Jen reported the information regarding the proposed new fire station is on the google site for members to look at the designers will be coming to the Dec. 5 meeting.

Dave makes a MOTION to adjourn Joe B. seconds the motion.
All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
J. McKibben