

## **Lyme Affordable Housing Commission Meeting September 13, 2021**

This commission meeting was announced as a hybrid meeting, to be conducted both in person at the Lyme Town Hall and over Zoom. Attending (in person): Tim Hildner (Chair), Carleen Gerber, Carol House, Steve Mattson, Phyllis Ross and Tina West. Isabelle Roberge (Zoom). No visitors.

Hildner called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The minutes of the August 9 meeting were accepted as posted.

### **Old Business:**

***Public Education Initiative:*** *creating a marketing plan to provide support for affordable housing.*

The Commission spend much of its meeting discussing components of the proposed marketing plan. These discussions included i) the commission's vision for what the next phase of affordable housing might look like, ii) how such a project might be funded, iii) the appropriate language to accurately describe the need for affordable housing and how it might be developed, iv) working cooperatively with Old Lyme on these issues, and v) how best to approach needed zoning changes.

### ***Affordable Housing Plan:***

As mentioned at last month's meeting, RiverCOG launched a survey to learn more about the needs for and opinions about affordable housing in our area of the state. Hildner reported that Lyme currently has the highest response rates of any town. We need to keep this up, encouraging our town residents to respond. The survey can be accessed at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/regionalhousingplan>. Hildner will attend a RiverCOG meeting on September 20 to discuss the survey and the development of both the regional and town affordable housing plans.

### ***Format of Future Meetings***

We discussed how to handle future meetings with the potential surge in Covid infections. We will continue throughout this calendar year to meet in person and to make zoom available as well.

Starting in January, the Commission will change its meeting dates to the first Thursday of the month at 6 pm.

**New Business:**

Hildner will be part of a discussion of affordable housing this Sunday at the Adult Forum of the 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church in old Lyme. Michael Fogliano, chair of the Old Lyme Affordable Housing Commission, will be part of the discussion.

Hildner adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Next meeting: Monday October 4 at 6:30 pm. This will be a hybrid meeting with in-person and zoom available.

Respectively submitted,  
Carol House