

**Lyme Affordable Housing Commission Meeting
December 6, 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), Carol House, Jim Miller, Phyllis Ross, and Tina West. There was no one on Zoom and no visitors.

Hildner called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm. The minutes of the November 1 meeting were accepted as revised prior to posting.

Old Business:

Public Education Initiative: *creating a marketing plan to provide support for affordable housing.* Hildner handed out several documents, among which was a draft copy of our 2021 Annual Report which Hildner had prepared. The Commission had no suggested changes to this document. Hildner also passed out an updated marketing plan, which we agreed to rename the *Status Update for Affordable Housing in Lyme, Where Have We Come From? Where Are We Going?* The Commission discussed and agreed to some small wording changes on this document. Hildner will send the updated Status Report to Steve Mattson for his reaction. We decided to post both documents on the website - posting the Status Report immediately after Mattson's review and posting the Annual Report at the time when the Town's entire Annual Report is posted. Hildner will also send the Status Update to RiverCOG. Hildner will request a "box" in the next Selectman's newsletter to highlight the posting of the Status Update.

Affordable Housing Plan:

Members continued discussion of our approach to developing the Lyme Affordable Housing Plan that is required by the State by June 1, 2022.

Hildner informed the Commission that RiverCOG will be hosting a "Lyme specific" virtual workshop as a community outreach action. This workshop will be held in January with exact date to be determined. The stated purpose of the workshop is to begin the conversation about a community values statement and to engage the Lyme community on community values and needs. The Commission talked about this proposed workshop in which a draft "Community Values Statement for Lyme" will be a central focus. The Commission discussed the potential for holding a formal Town meeting(s) to provide information and feedback before finalizing the Affordable Housing Plan. It is unclear to the Commission at this point what the approval process will be for this Plan.

The Commission discussed portions of the 2015 Lyme Plan of Conservation and Development. This plan provides a variety of statements about the need for and support of Affordable Housing, not all of which appear consistent.

The Commission will discuss the draft *Community Values Statement for Lyme* at our January meeting with the intent of producing a draft to begin sharing. We also plan to discuss the concept of a "floating conservation zone" at that meeting.

New Business:

The position of Secretary to the Commission is open, as House asked to be replaced after serving in this position for two years. The Commission thanked House for her work in this capacity.

Hildner adjourned the meeting at 7:48 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 6th (first Thursday of the month), at 6:00 pm. **NOTE NEW TIME AND DAY!** This will be a hybrid meeting with in-person at the Town Hall with zoom available. We will continue with a hybrid meeting in February.

Respectively submitted,
Carol House