

June 19, 1972

At the last meeting of the Antrim Planning Board, the 1972 program for the board was substantially resolved, and involved some significant changes in the boards' operation. It should be realized by the town citizens that the function of the Planning Board is primarily to study problems facing the town, to prepare material for enactment of town meeting; the board does not act in an administrative or decision making capacity.

In view of the actions taken by the March 1972 town meeting, the board feels that it should do a better job of preparing material for presentation to the meeting, particularly in terms of providing adequate information on proposed measures to the public well before town meeting.

Since there are a number of problems of initial importance to the towns' future, which should be considered carefully at the 1973 town meeting, and since these problems require more than casual study, the board has set up specific committees to handle major subjects, including the broad areas of (a) taxation, (b) zoning, (c) highway maintenance development, (d) environment, (e) public information, (f) regional planning. An effort is being made to enlist the help of competent citizens to assist the Planning Board by serving with the regularly appointed board members on these committees, in order to get a broader range of opinion, and to do a more thorough job.

Beginning in September the board will meet regularly the fourth Thursday of each month, with the sub-committees meeting as required. It is expected that public hearings will be held on specific subjects prior to town meeting, allowing time to prepare suitable current articles. It should be understood, however, that all regularly scheduled planning board meetings are open to the general public, and the board welcomes any help or opinions from the public.