

Lyme Planning Board Minutes
August 14, 2008

Board Members & Staff: Present: John Billings, Vice Chair; Dick Jones, Selectboard Representative; John Stadler, member; Paul Mayo, alternate and, Francesca Latawiec, Planning & Zoning Administrator.

Absent: David Roby, member.

Public: None present.

The meeting was called to order by John Billings; Vice Chair; who acted as chair for the duration of the meeting, at 7:00 PM. John Billings appointed Paul Mayo to sit for David Roby, in his absence, for the duration of the meeting.

Item 1: Discussion of Minutes of July 24, 2008: John Stadler made a motion to approve the minutes with the addition “and on the pedestrian /bike path and public transportation sections.” To the last sentence under Item 2. Upon a second by Dick Jones, the motion passed unanimously.

Item 2: Resignation of Chair, Need to Appoint New Member: The Board read Stephanie Clark’s letter of resignation as chair and member of the Lyme Planning Board. Dick Jones made a motion to accept Ms. Clark’s resignation, with extreme regrets, and to direct Francesca to write a letter acknowledging the Planning Board’s appreciation for Stephanie’s contribution to the Town of Lyme and authorizing John Billings to sign it on behalf of the board. Upon a second by John Stadler, the motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, the Planning Board decided to wait until the next meeting to appoint a new member to fill Stephanie Clark’s position until it can be filled by an official ballot vote at the March 2009 Town Meeting.

Item 3: Master Plan Discussion: The board began with a discussion of the August 2, 2008 draft of the Transportation Section that was prepared by Dick Jones. Mr. Jones explained that the information presented in the Tables on page VII-4 were based upon traffic counts done by the state DOT and the Town of Lyme. Data from 2008 needs to be added for several roads. He proposed the 2002 and 2003 data be dropped, with a focus on the % change between 2004 and 2008, however, it was decided to leave these data in the table. In general, traffic counts have decreased recently. Since transportation networks drive future land use, Dick Jones will revise the section to reflect the community’s desire to preserve and maintain the existing infrastructure of roads and bridges as opposed to proposing major improvements.

Existing documents, such as the Natural Resources Inventory (2007) the Hazard Mitigation Plan (2006) and the Emergency Operations Plan (2004) will be incorporated into the Master Plan by reference, using both electronic links and footnotes in the plan.

The Economic Section will not be extensive, as it is more of a regional issue, with limited possibilities within the Town of Lyme.

The Community Profile Section was discussed for the first time. Lyme is part of the Lebanon micropolitan area within what is called a NECTA (New England City and Town Areas). Demographically, compared to data for the Lebanon area and Grafton County as a whole, Lyme has an older median age, greater educational attainment, a higher income and a lower poverty rate. Lyme also has a lower percentage of low cost and higher percentage of high cost housing and a lower percentage of low rent and a higher percentage of high rent units than the Lebanon area or Grafton County.

Item 3: Review of Possible Zoning Amendments:

There were no new possible zoning amendments discussed at this meeting. Francesca Latawiec will research the time table for public hearings and preparing the warrant for zoning amendments for 2009 Town Meeting and present the findings to the Planning Board.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Francesca Latawiec, CWS, CPSSc, PG
Planning & Zoning Administrator