

One Londonderry Steering Committee Meeting
Wednesday, June 8, 2022, 3 PM at Neighborhood Connections

Present: Heather Stephenson, Bruce F Raumann, Esther Fishman, Mary Ellen Yankosky, Elsie Smith, Larry Gubb, Mimi Lines, Patty Eisenhaur

Esther called the meeting to order at 3:05.

Communications: Heather led the group in a tutorial on facebook. Since One Londonderry has been posting, there have been 220 “likes” and no negative posts. It is working! Heather reminded the groups to submit a post at least once month by using the submission form she has created:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfJkApVaDjLo5ebt8P8J5sqleBU75csKTE0P-WNcpHENTAySA/viewform>

Groups should bookmark this for easy access. Posts can include relevant articles or research, reposts from other sites, photos. As groups submit more posts to the communications committee, it will help the committee refine the One Londonderry message.

Community Center: MaryEllen Yankosky said she has walked the Prouty property and feels it would be an ideal location for a community center because of its size and location. It is important the community center be located in Londonderry because of the economic, social, and recreational benefits it will bring. MaryEllen will be presenting the concept to the Selectboard on June 20; she asks all Steering Committee members to attend the meeting to show their support.

Economic Vitality: Stuart Osnow was not at the meeting but submitted the following report: “As we approach the Idea Jam, we are posting the event and sign ups. Kia will be profiling businesses. After the event, she'll add personal stories about neighbors and colorful photos. We are sharing FB posts with other Londonderry sites and she has added Instagram to our social media. We will get more aggressive signing up businesses. Please encourage people to join the business alliance and talk up the idea jam. There are not many people statewide signing up for the \$20,000 prize. There are 3 from Londonderry and the rest are from Brattleboro. By signing up for the idea jam, entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to use BDCC resources to write a business plan whether or not they win.”

Housing: Patty Eisenhaur said that she would like the OL Housing Group to issue a press release thanking the Selectboard for awarding ARPA funding to do a housing needs assessment; the housing group is looking forward to partnering with the Planning Commission in its implementation. She also reported that the Perry Lane project is moving along slowly. Since this is the first time a project like this has been undertaken, there are many bumps in the road. Most recently they learned that Windham Windsor Housing Trusts's credit line can't be accessed at this time, which means the project will have to apply for a construction loan. Lastly, Patty said her committee engagement is good and they could actually use a few more volunteers to explore other housing opportunities like accessory dwellings.

Main Street: Mimi Line and Larry Gubb reported with the completion of the Main Street Study and Master Plan that this committee is starting to explore some small - and visible - projects.

These include:

- Develop ideas for the vacant lot at Route 100 and 11, opposite Williams Park and the former Shoe Barn.
- Look at options for the retaining wall at the old Shoe Barn property
- Consider design ideas for the Burton Sledding Hill/amphitheater at Williams Park
- Research sidewalk and crosswalk ideas for North Main Street
- Develop ideas for a RiverWalk along North Main Street
- Research architectural styles, building history and signage in Londonderry to inform future development
- Streetscape furniture, bike racks, fire pits
- Traffic calming ideas like solar powered radar signs, speed bumps.

Mimi also reported that the Resource Guide is moving along. The design makes it Londonderry focused although it includes regional businesses and activities.

Recreation: Martha Dale was not able to attend but submitted a written report: "The Waze and Trails group continues to work on the trail map and brochure. The skating rink group met last week with good reflections on last season and ideas for next year. Most importantly, we are going to shift the location of the rink, pivoting it closer to Route 100 to get it off the septic field".

July 4 Annual Meeting Presentation: Esther said that there is no application process for participating in the parade or the gathering at the Marketplace. The group discussed creating some display boards to help residents understand the new Main Street Master Plan concepts. Larry will develop a display.

Any Other Business: The group agreed to invite Melissa Brown to subsequent OL SC meetings since she kindly offered to be our liaison with the Selectboard. Patty Eisenhour reported that the blue house on North Main Street owned by Center Merrill is now under contract.

Next meeting: Wednesday July 13, 2022, 3 PM at Neighborhood Connections.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Elsie Smith