

**Town of New Haven Joint Meeting between the
Selectboard, Development Review Board, Planning Commission and
The Conservation Commission**

7:00 pm

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Town Offices

Selectboard: Chair, Steve Dupoise, Vice Chair, Kathy Barrett, Taborri Bruhl, John Roleau, Jim Walsh and Clerk, Pam Kingman

Development Review Board: Chair, Kathy Barrett, Tom Fyles, Don Johnston, Charlie Roy, Tim Bouton and Susan Smiley

Planning Commission: Co-Chair, Benj Putnam, Co-Chair, Rob Litch, Dan Monger, Bev Landon, Pat Palmer and Maggie Eaton

Conservation Commission: Mark Krawczyk, Susan Smiley, David Lewis, Cheryl Mitchell

Zoning Administrator: Katie Raycroft-Meyer

Town Attorney: Cindy Hill

Visitors: Marcia Dupoise

Selectboard Chair, Steve Dupoise opened the meeting at 7:00pm, everyone around the table introduced themselves.

Steve said he called the meeting to get the boards working towards the same goals for the benefit of the town.

- Discuss the Planning Commission (PC) choosing one or two topics to bring forward to the voters each year, so that we don't run into having the Town Plan expire; like what happened last year.
- Some of the PC members felt they were ignored through the process last year.
- Discuss the PC taking the ball and going with it.
- Development Review Board (DRB) noted areas of difficulty in the zoning bylaws; they asked the PC to work on. PC started process, and then they were hit with a ton of solar array issues.
- DRB members came up with a list of areas difficult for them to interpret; this was handed out at tonight's meeting. PC asked to work on changes, present to DRB and then to the Selectboard. Changes are then approved or not by the Selectboard, not the voters.

- DRB was asked to prioritize the list.
- Discuss revisions to the Town Plan, and what that process entails to bring it forth to the voters.
- Conservation Reserve Fund was discussed. Putting together a committee of Selectboard and Conservation Commission members to formulate guidelines for the fund. Monkton is a town close by that has a Conservation Reserve Fund; it would be good to get feedback from them on how fund was set up and how it is used. Charlotte is another town who has a land trust fund. This is set up as a 501c3, so folks can donate funds, which are then tax deductible. The Selectboard is the Trustee of the Fund. Town Attorney, Cindy Hill suggested getting guidelines for set up and usage from VLCT.
- Discuss being open and transparent with the Conservation Reserve Fund.

- Broad discussion around communication between all the boards, trying to maintain it. Possibly having a representative from each board attend other boards meetings, and report back. (semi – annual basis). Minutes from all the boards are on the website.
- Open Meeting Law was discussed. It has been difficult to communicate within the boards, because of the open meeting law. No one wants to get into hot water by communicating with more than one person; it has created challenges; especially for those boards that only meet once a month. Cindy Hill strongly suggested having VLCT come down and hold an open meeting law workshop for the boards would be very beneficial. This was done several years ago when the open meeting law was changed.
- Flood plain development was discussed. Pam Kingman will forward the Hazard Mitigation Plan to the Planning Commission.
- PC is feeling the challenges without having a consultant who can spend time with them. They are hoping to hire Ed Hanson as their consultant.
- Sound Standards were discussed. Jim Walsh mentioned several different entities the PC will want to look at. There are several locations in town where sound standards will come into play, and the different standards are controlled by different entities.
- Steve Dupoise set some timelines:
 1. Cindy Hill will work on the timeline for the Town Plan process / Setting up and administering the

Conservation Reserve Fund / VLCT open Meeting
Law

2. DRB will prioritize the list for the zoning bylaws. Ideas about prioritization will be emailed to Pam Kingman by Thursday, May 17, 2018. She will forward to the DRB.
3. Ask everyone to look at page 115 in the Town Plan, there is an Action Plan; this may help with the priority list for zoning bylaws.

Cheryl Mitchell thanked Steve Dupoise for calling the meeting, getting the boards together. Steve said everyone here wants what is best for the town.

Adjourn: 8:45 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved:

Chair, Steve Dupoise

Vice Chair, Kathy Barrett

Taborri Bruhl

John Roleau

Jim Walsh

DRAFT