



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

8:30 AM

PRESENT: Paul Gorman, Bill Dietrich, Janet Kidder, Jeremy Bonin, Tim Paradis, Mark Vernon

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Adam Ricker-Planner, Elizabeth Meller, Joe Kubit

1. **Call to Order:** Jeremy Bonin called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.
2. **Review Minutes from 1/9 Meeting:** A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented by Tim Paradis and a second by Bill Dietrich. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Discussion of Master Plan Process:**
The group began the meeting by discussing the upcoming focus group with department heads. The group brainstormed the three questions that would be asked of the department heads. The questions were:
 1. How are your current needs being met regarding staff, facility and infrastructure?
 2. What planning related concerns do you have regarding your position with the town?
 3. Do you see any of the current ordinances or regulations as hindering your position and if so, how could they be amended to better serve you and the community?
4. **Survey Discussion:** The group discussed the survey questions that would be included in the Master Plan. The working document of survey questions is attached to these minutes.
5. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting is schedule for January 30 at 12:30
6. **Adjourn:** William Dietrich, motioned to adjourn, Janet Kidder seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.
- 7.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Ricker
Town Planner
Town of New London

Key: **blue text** – recent change in process, need of approval or attention
black text – completed/approved for 1st revision
grey text – not addressed as of yet
highlighted text – needs data

POTENTIAL QUESTIONS FOR TOWN SURVEY (revised 01.23.2018)

INTRODUCTION (Note: Adam to update highlighted figures with census data)

The total winter population of New London in 2005 was estimated to be 4,564 that included 3,573 year-round residents and 714 Colby-Sawyer student residents. The total estimated summer population of New London in 2005 was estimated to be 5,762 that included 3,573 year-round residents and 1,430 summer seasonal residents. Current zoning permits a total population build-out of about 9,000.

(Adam to develop statement/purpose describing intent/process of Master Planning/Zoning)

TOWN CHARACTER AND GROWTH

Question #1: Please rate the importance of each attribute you feel contribute to making New London a desirable place to live and/or work:

Important Not Important No Opinion

- Small town atmosphere (Village center, New England charm, sense of community, etc.)
- Natural Resources (Scenic vistas, lakes, mountains, open spaces, etc.)

- Availability of outdoor & indoor recreational activities
- Availability of commercial goods & professional services (shops, restaurants, health care, legal, etc.)
- Availability of housing types for all income levels

Question #2: Please rate the importance of each of the following objectives in planning for the future of New London over the next fifteen years:

Important Not Important No Opinion

- Attract a more balanced mix of resident age groups
- Attract commercial and professional services
- Attract tourist (+seasonal, +outdoor recreational) related business
- Continue to trend as retirement community
- Attract clean, non-polluting light or high-tech businesses
- ~~○ limiting commercial development~~
- ~~○ restricting industrial development~~

Question #3: Please rate the importance of New London's response to pressure for additional commercial growth generated by the population growth in the greater Kearsarge/Sunapee area.

Important Not Important No Opinion

- Promote/support regional commercial growth
- Promote/support local commercial growth
- ~~○ Do not promote commercial growth~~

Question #4: Please rate your feelings toward population growth:

Favorable Not Favorable No Opinion

- Regional Growth
- New London Growth

Question # 5: Please rate the following attributes contributing to the unique character of New London:

Very Important Important Somewhat Important Not Important

- landmarks, historic buildings
- Scenic views/vistas + integrity of ridgelines
- rural quality, +agricultural/open fields, +stone walls, +tree lines, +charming rural roads
- ~~Surface Waters~~ Lakes, +wetlands, marshes, bogs
- Mix of commercial and residential main street
- Colby Sawyer campus/buildings
- ~~○ maintain vegetative buffer along rural~~
- ~~○ maintain vegetative buffer along lakes~~
- ~~○ maintain rural and agricultural feel~~
- ~~○ maintain tight control of signage~~
- ~~○ compatibility of rural new England buildings~~
- ~~○ neighborhood feel of main street~~
- ~~○ attractive landscaping~~
- ~~○ undeveloped scenic rural quality of town~~
- ~~○ village architectural quality~~
- ~~○ protection of important properties~~
- ~~○ community pride,~~
- ~~○ bury utilities~~

Question # 11: How would you rate the importance of protecting the following scenic views? (Please rate each view. Refer to the accompanying map for the locations of the views listed.)

- ~~○ Main street~~
- ~~○ Main street fields~~
- ~~○ Little Sunapee road fields~~
- ~~○ Views/fields along rt. 11/king hill~~
- ~~○ Views from Burpee Hill~~
- ~~○ Views from behind New London Shopping center~~
- ~~○ Views from Morgan Hill Road~~
- ~~○ Views of Colby Point~~
- ~~○ Views along Pleasant Lake~~
- ~~○ Views along Tracy and County Road~~

the importance of creating historic protection for the following:

Very Important Important Somewhat Important Not Important

- +Individual Historic Buildings
- +Historic sites
- +Historic features (stone walls, etc.)
- Districts (such as Elkins Village, Old Main Street, Main Street from Crockett's Corner to Spring Ledge, etc.)

~~Question # 15: How important do you think it is to preserve the following historic attributes?~~

- ~~○ Individual Historic Buildings~~
- ~~○ Historic sites~~
- ~~○ Historic features such as stone walls~~

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL LAND USE: (Note: should include a map)

Question # 3: What overall pattern of future residential development would you prefer to see in Town? (Please rate each pattern)

Question #6: Existing commercially zoned areas include:

- a. Main St. from Seamans Rd. to Parkside Rd. (from the Police Station to Peter Christian's);
- b. Newport Rd. from Little Sunapee Rd. to the Post Office; and
- c. The center of Elkins (from Elkins Chapel to Hillcrest drive).

In what part(s) of Town do you support adding areas to be zoned for commercial use?

List (Nowhere/no further commercial development, Anywhere in Town, Only where there is access to public water & sewer service, Along all State highways and major town roads, Behind existing commercial zone on Main Street towards Barrett Rd. between the Village Green Shops and Parkside Rd., On Main St. between Parkside Rd. and Little Sunapee Rd., Elkins area, Route 11 between Main Street and Seamans Road, Around the I-89 interchanges)

Question # 7: Assuming additional area is zoned for commercial/industrial development in New London in the future, which types of commercial/industrial uses should be permitted in those areas? (Please rate each type of development)

Question #12: Workforce or affordable housing is housing affordable to all income levels and generally applies to mortgage or rent, insurance and taxes being no more than 30 percent of a household income.

Do you think there is a need for workforce/affordable housing for people who work in New London such as police, firefighters, teachers, health care providers, etc.? (Please choose one)

Question # 13: Please indicate your level of support for the following methods of how New London could address the need to accommodate housing for people who work in Town? (Please rate each method)

Wilmot #2: Assuming growth, what types of housing should be part of this development? (List)

Wilmot #8: How should Wilmot's regulations address the following general land uses?

List - (Residential, Large commercial, small commercial, industrial, agriculture...)

TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING

Question # 23: Do you support expanding public transportation to major regional transportation hubs? (Please choose one)

Question # 24: Do you support studying the feasibility of developing public transportation within the greater New London regional area? (Please choose one)

Question # 25: Do you support developing a local transportation center in New London? (Please choose one)

Wilmot #15/16: Do you have concerns about traffic speeds? Noise?

Question #?: Park & Ride...

CONSERVATION & NATURAL RESOURCES

Question # 16: Do you support continued efforts by the Town to protect land that is considered significant to the Town's character (i.e. the Philbrick-Cricenti Bog and the Town Common)? (Please choose one)

Question #17: If yes to the question above, should the Town invest in the protection of additional lands considered to be significant to the Town's character? (Please choose one)

Question # 18: Please indicate your level of support for conserving the following types of properties. (Please rank your level of support for each type of property listed)

Question #19: Existing land use regulations do not protect the natural resources listed below. Please indicate your level of support for protecting the following natural resources through amendments to local land use regulations. (Please rank each natural resource)

List - (Ridgelines, hillsides, Groundwater resources, Wildlife habitat, Scenic resources, Agricultural land & open fields)

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Question # 26: Do you support the concept of developing a community center in New London to serve people of all ages and provide a variety of activities? (Please choose one)

Question # 27: Do you support the Town participating in financing the concept of a community center? (Please choose one)

Question # 31: How would you rate each of the following public services? (Please choose one rating for each public service)

Question #28: Where and what type of improvements for pedestrian and bicycle connections do you support?

Sidewalks are paved and allow pedestrians but not bicyclists.

Multi-Use Paths are constructed of crushed gravel and allow multiple uses such as walkers, runners, & mountain bikers. Bike Lanes are built on the side of the road with a painted stripe separating the bike lane from vehicle lanes for bike use only. Bike Paths are separate paved paths for bike use only that are built off-road. Check one response for each location.

Question # 29: The Town currently has a network of hiking and walking trails in the rural parts of the community. Please indicate your level of support for adding the following segments to the hiking and walking trail network. (Please rate each segment)

Question # 30: Do you support the creation, addition or expansion of the following public facilities on the lakes listed below? (Please rate each type of facility for each of the listed lakes)
(Lake Sunapee, LL Sunapee, Pleasant, Messer)

Public Beach

Beach Parking

Public Boat Access

Boat Access Parking

DEMOGRAPHICS:

Question # 44: Are you a:

- Resident property owner, or
- Nonresident property owner
- Year-round resident, or
- Part time resident
- ~~Resident voter/non-property owner~~
- Other _____

Question # 45: In what age bracket are you?

- Under 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 59
- Over 60

Question #?: How far do you commute to work?

- Not applicable/retired
- 0-4 miles
- 5-9 miles
- 10-19 miles

- 20 miles or greater

~~Question # 49: How many years have you owned property or resided in New London? (Please choose one)~~

~~Question # 50: What is the highest level of education you attained? (Please choose one)~~

~~Question # 46: Do you have children at home who fall into the following categories? (Please choose all that apply and indicate how many)~~

~~Question # 47: Which of the following describes your employment status? (Please choose one)~~

~~Question # 48: Do you own property in New London? (Please choose one)~~

IN QUESTION:

Question #8: A regional fiber optic network could deliver advanced telecommunications capabilities to every resident, public safety agency, educational institution, healthcare facility, and business in participating towns. The Town would not provide actual service, but, would construct and manage the fiber network over which such services could be offered. The construction can be funded privately or using tax dollars. Should New London continue to encourage the development of a regional fiber optic network to serve all areas of Town?

Question # 9: If yes to the question above, should the Town invest in a regional fiber optic network?

~~Question # 26: Do you support the concept of developing a community center in New London to serve people of all ages and provide a variety of activities? (Please choose one)~~

~~Question # 27: Do you support the Town participating in financing the concept of a community center? (Please choose one)~~

~~Question # 20: Should the Town study amending its land use regulations to allow and facilitate the use of alternative energy sources such as wind generators and solar energy for residential uses? (Please choose one)~~

Question #22: Sustainability is commonly defined as: "Meeting the needs of current generations without compromising the needs of future generations." To determine if something is sustainable, three elements must be considered: economics, environment and social equity. Should the Town work toward sustainability in its own operations (i.e. energy conservation) and promote sustainable practices on a town-wide and regional basis?

Question # 39: Did you know that the Town takes electronic waste for a fee at the Public Works Department?

Question # 32: In 2007, New London disposed of 2,800 tons of solid waste material, including residential and commercial waste. The Town recycled 813 tons, generating \$50,000 in savings and giving the Town a 22.5% recycling rate. For 2008, the solid waste handling budget is \$385,000 and the Town is exploring ways of saving money through increased recycling. Income opportunities from recycled goods are increasing as tipping fees increase. Do you recycle?

Question # 33: If yes, do you feel you could do more?

Question # 34: If you do not recycle, or you feel you could do more, why don't you? (Please rank each response)

Question #35: It is estimates that 40-50% of the weight of trash is food waste that could be composted. Weather permitting, composting makes sense even for non-gardeners because it greatly reduces tipping fees and "recycles" organic matter.

Do you compost? Why not?

Question # 37: Would you buy an inexpensive composter if sold by the Town?

Question # 38: Would you compost if the Town had a composting facility for food waste? (The Town already has a composting facility for yard waste at the stump dump.)

Question # 40: The Town would like to encourage recycling to save tax dollars and to promote sound environmental practices. "Pay-as-you-throw" is one alternative that has greatly increased recycling and saved thousands of dollars in tipping fees in other NH towns, while generating recycling revenues. Citizens pay a minimum amount (\$1-\$3) for each bag of trash and nothing for bags of recyclables. If it made economic sense, would you support a "pay-as-you-throw" program?

Question # 41: How else could the Town encourage recycling?

Question # 42: If you are involved with a business in New London, does the business trash go to the transfer station?

Question # 43: If yes, what special issues do you face in recycling and how can the Town help?

Wilmot #23: What part of Town do you live in?

Wilmot #24: Which best describes your housing arrangement?

Wilmot #25: How long have you lived in or owned property in Wilmot?