



# TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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## **CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**May 18, 2019**

**7:30 AM**

### **PRESENT:**

Nancy Rollins, Chairman  
Janet Kidder, Selectman  
Kimberly Hallquist, Town Administrator  
Wendy Johnson, Finance Officer

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Thelma Kaplan, Amy Kaplan, David Royle, Karen Hoglund, Peter Hoglund, Bob Crane, Katharine Fischer, Susan Cox, Emma Crane, David Payne, Paul Linehan, Celeste Cook, Don Sheffield

Chair Rollins called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM.

### **Introductions**

Chair Rollins welcomed members to the revitalization of the Citizens Advisory Committee. The members introduced themselves and were asked to discuss what they like best about New London and what the biggest challenges New London will face in the next five years. Reasons they liked living in New London included the small-town feel, sense of community, being close to medical facilities, its beauty and low crime. Challenges included providing affordable housing for all income levels, infrastructure, growth, residents not being open to change and figuring out how to draw more young families to town.

### **Charter**

Chair Rollins stated the purpose of this group is to be advisory; to be advisory connotes participation and sharing about things going on this town and things that affect this town. Part of the feedback towards the end of the last Citizens Advisory Committee was that there wasn't an opportunity to speak and there were always presentations. The presentations were often used as a way to fill the void of a lack of conversation. Chair Rollins noted that it is the expectation that all will participate in these meetings, observing that there are many things going on in New London and the Selectmen need advice and input. It was also suggested that more people that work in New London be recruited to the committee. Advertising and word of mouth are the best ways to encourage people to join.

### **Governance of Committee**

Chair Rollins suggested selecting a chair and vice-chair. The most important role for the Chair is to work with the Selectmen and Town Administrator to create meeting agendas. It was decided that Celeste Cook and Karen Hoglund would Co-Chair the committee.

## Meeting Schedule

The members of the Citizens Advisory Committee decided to hold the meetings at 7:30AM on the first Saturday of each month. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2019. The meeting calendar is always available on the town website.

Committee members agreed they like the idea of taking the meetings to different town departments at various facilities. The focus should be on important issues that need to be addressed.

It was suggested that a list be sent around to get contact information for all committee members.

## Other Business

Kim Hallquist provided the following update:

- The biggest project being worked on currently is the Buker renovations. At town meeting, \$600,000 was approved for these repairs; North Branch Construction is just beginning work.
- On May 20, 2019, Michael Hanson and Bob Harrington will attend the Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss two bridges that will be replaced at Pingree Road and Goose Hole Road.
- Police Chief Ed Anderson will also attend the Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss ticketing for illegal parking at the park n' ride. The Police Chief will also discuss requests for "no through trucks" on Bunker Road and Burpee Hill Road.
- The Building and Facilities Committee will attend the Board of Selectmen meeting. The Selectmen will discuss what the focus of this committee is. Initially they will look at all town buildings a report on their condition. They may also be charged with looking at the issue of having a building inspector to determine whether we should have one in New London.

Chair Rollins asked what topics should be addressed at the next several meetings. It was agreed that housing should be on the agenda and also an update regarding the workforce housing proposal that will be presented at the upcoming Planning Board meeting.

Karen Hoglund asked whether it has been considered that closed circuit television be available so people can watch the town meetings from home. It may help keep people informed if they have difficulty coming in for meetings. Ms. Hallquist stated that it has been considered several times over the years but for various reasons has not been adopted.

**IT WAS MOVED (Nancy Rollins) AND SECONDED (Celeste Cook) to adjourn. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Trina Dawson

Recording Secretary  
Town of New London