

Town of North Canaan
Housing Steering Committee
September 7, 2022

Present: Jocelyn Ayer, First Selectman Charlie Perotti, Ashleigh Bergenty, Mike Pallone, Will Perotti, MaryBeth Wabreck

Ms. Ayer convened the meeting at 7:02pm

This evening's meeting is to check in the next steps for the draft plan. The Planning and Zoning Commission agreed that the plan is consistent with the plan of development. They did not ask for any changes or additions. We received a couple more responses from the feedback survey. Not a large number of responses. There were 5 people that may be interested in coming to an informational meeting regarding the potential housing committee for plan implementation. There was a discussion of other towns and the consideration of the original steering committee staying in place. Ms. Ayer would be able to work with a committee when one is created. A lot of the plan is increasing awareness and supporting potential projects as they come up.

The next step is for the Board of Selectmen to approve or deny the plan. It is on the October Selectmen agenda. Selectman Perotti does not see any reason that it would fail. A town meeting is not necessary for adoption. Selectman Perotti will discuss with the other selectmen for their input.

It was suggested that people who filled out the survey be let know of the selectman's meeting and that beyond putting it on the website perhaps getting a flyer out.

The committee discussed the community engagement mini grant and the possible uses for it. A proposal for having an even to draw interest in the plan and implementation was not met with enthusiasm from the funders. Other ideas were to provide weekly meals delivered to Wangum for residents there, Beckley House and other community seniors. RSVPs would be necessary. MaryBeth and Ashleigh will work with Ms. Ayer on the logistics of this. Selectman Perotti will bring the idea to the October meeting.

There was a discussion of the recent sales of some of the property owned by Geer.

Jocelyn interest read about Geer – selling off properties.

Mr. W Perotti discussed the possibility of using some money for Christmas decorations to places such as Wangum to continue the decoration feel from the center of town. Wangum has some decorations now. He also discussed the possibility of bringing in experts on affordable housing utilization and the affects on the community targeting people who are interested in creating housing. Ms. Ayer may be able to have that without spending money as she has some contacts for that. One on one meetings may be more productive so if there are people interested in that please let her know.

Meeting concluded at 7:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary