Members Present: Thad Presby, John Dimarzio, Eric Meth, and Mary Grote

A regular meeting of the Franconia Planning Board was held at the Franconia Town Hall on Tuesday, June 8, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 7:12pm by Thad Presby

**Approval of Minutes –** Thad made a motion to approve the minutes of May 11, 2021, as written, second by Eric. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Master Plan –** The Board reviewed and discussed the sample survey questions Thad prepared and shared with the Board members prior to the meeting.

The Board discussed whether question #3 is a question that should be in the survey or if it should be reworded in some way. It was suggested that, “Are you a second homeowner”, might be better wording. John stated it is important to know why people are here and what draws them to Franconia if they have a second home here. The Board agreed it was important to know who is answering these questions and to know what people are interested in.

John suggested possibly adding wording to question #10 to define different income levels, but not sure that is the appropriate way to say it. Eric suggested workforce housing or affordable housing. Thad stated adding something like, “such as workforce, affordable, and senior housing” at the end of the question.

Mary stated that energy sources in question #11 covers a broad spectrum. Thad stated it is referring to solar energy because there is not a huge need for hydro energy in Franconia. Thad stated he chose not to get too specific so people can put down what they are interested in.

John suggested adding “or improve on” to the end of question #17.

Thad suggested that “why do you live here” could be a question added at the end of the survey, or, “what makes you want to live here”, and someone may give you multiple reasons.

Mary stated she does not like weighing things by scale, comparing one against the other. Thad stated it is not asking to weigh one question against another, but to give an answer for each question. Mary suggested adding boxes next to each of the scaled questions, either at the beginning of the question or at the end, so it is clear to people that they are separate questions.

Eric suggested adding a question about broadband. Thad stated a question could be added about broadband, internet, communication or come up with a general category.

Mary asked again if a decision has been made on how to send out the surveys. Thad stated the Board already agreed to mail a postcard to each property owner that will say the surveys are on the website to be printed or answered online, or you can call the Town Hall and one will be mailed to you.

Eric asked if there should be something about hospitality, hotels, Airbnb. He also mentioned the Art Walk, so should entertainment be added. Thad stated if we get too specific the survey will get too long; however, if you ask people about Airbnb they are going to say no and it’s good to get that discussion going.

Mark asked if there should be a question about anything that you want added or taken away from the Dow. Thad stated question #12 refers to upgrading town facilities and a comment could be made under that. Eric stated that the tennis courts are getting repaired and Cindy Berlack is heading that up. The courts belong to the Dow Association, but there is a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town.

The Board also discussed having a space for people to write their name and contact information if they so choose to or it can be anonymous.

Thad will revise the survey questions based on tonight’s discussion and send it out to Board members before the next meeting.

The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 13th, at 7:00pm at the Franconia Town Hall.

After a motion and a second, the meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Wills