Members Present: Frank Copsidas, Barbara Ackerman, Catharine Cooke, Katie Harrison, Ted Hollander, James Philipakos

Members Absent: Carol Faure

Also Present: Janet Wey—Chairman—Commission on Aging, Kevin Keenan-Selectman, Alfred Kloiber, John Cilio, Melanie McNichol, Rob Medeiros, Nancy Mandeville, Art von Plachecki, Anne Price, Ray Kelly, and an audience of approximately 20 more people, Michele MacKinnon—Commission Clerk

Call to Order: F Copsidas called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

Approval of Minutes of regular monthly meeting of January 27, 2020
Motion to approve by B. Ackerman.
Seconded by T. Hollander.
Vote for: Unanimous

Public Comment:
Motion by F Copsidas for a change to this meeting’s agenda to allow A. von Plachecki five minutes to speak now and hold other public comment until end of meeting.
Seconded by T. Hollander.
Vote for: Unanimous

A. von Plachecki stated his support for the work underway by the Housing Commission. F. Copsidas clarified: the proposal is to collect taxes on the Sherman 55 complex. The survey conducted within the prior 12 months was to determine if there was sufficient interest that could be demonstrated to potential developers. The survey indicated more than the needed level of interest to continue the commission’s exploratory work.

Old Business
- New land possibilities
F Copsidas reported he identified a 4 acre parcel behind the current Senior Center. C Cooke reported possible land behind a house that’s coming up for sale, zoned A3, not in historic district. T Hollander invited the audience to suggest locations as well. There has been no decision regarding use of land behind American Pie.

- Commissioner terms and nominations
James Philipakos and Katie Harrison have been reappointed to the commission. There are two commissioner openings and suggestions for new commissioners are welcome.

Meeting time and day
Motion by C Cooke to change meeting start time to 5:30 PM, stay with Monday night.
Seconded by K Harrison.
Vote for: Unanimous
Housing Packet presented by Catharine Cooke
C Cooke will make suggested revisions, including adding the HC’s new email address - shc@townofsherman.org.
Action item: K Harrison will ask K Keenan to review revised packet before it’s mailed.

2020 Commission Budget
Motion by C Cooke to approve proposed budget for $2,423.08. 
Motion was amended after a mistake was noted to approve an amount of $2,460.
Seconded by K Harrison.
Vote for: Unanimous

List of potential developers’ interest packet for mailing
F Copsidas has three names. C Cooke has three names. J Philipakos has two or three names. B Ackerman and T Hollander already sent names.
Action item: F Copsidas will compile and circulate to commissioners via email.

New Business:
Discussion of Letter to prospective Commissioners - no changes suggested.

Proposed changes to zoning regulations and affordable housing by State of Connecticut.
The state held a Planning and Development Committee Hearing on Feb 21 regarding changes to House Bill 5132 An Act Concerning the Reorganization of the Zoning Enabling Act and the Promotion of Municipal Compliance. If passed the result would be each town would be required to develop plans to address the revised bill.
Action item: K Harrison to share guidance from the CT Council of Small Towns.

Comments by Commissioners:
K Harrison noted the HC questionnaire and results, conducted via Survey Monkey, is no longer on the town website.

Alfred Kloiber, a potential new commissioner, was invited to share his views on being a commissioner.

Correspondence: none

Public Comment: Several members of the public asked questions which were addressed by F. Copsidas.

Adjournment:
C Cooke moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 PM to enter Executive Session.
T Hollander seconded the motion.
Vote for: Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by: Michele MacKinnon, 26th February 2020

Next meeting: March 23, 2020 at 5:30 PM