JACKSON PLANNING BOARD

MINUTES – August 10, 2017 – REGULAR MEETING - UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED

Call to Order: Bill Terry, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. Attending were Members Dick Bennett, Kathleen Dougherty, Chris McAleer, Sarah Kimball, Scott Badger, and Bill Terry; Betsey Harding was the attending Alternate. Bill mentioned that the Selectmen had voted earlier today to move Betsey back to full membership, though she would need to be sworn in first. All would be voting. Also attending were Christine and Myles Crowe, and Hank Benesh, who was making an audio-visual recording of the meeting.

Minutes of June 8: Scott moved approval of the minutes, Chris seconded the motion; they were unanimously approved. There was no meeting in July.

Matters not on the Agenda for the evening: none.

Review of requested document correction for Crowes' Nest Condominium Conversion Plan: Myles and Christine Crowe clarified the reason for this request: a mistaken notation on the plan stated "Recreation Area Limited Common Area Unit 1B", but should have stated only "Common Area". Copies of the corrected plan, including the mylar to be submitted to Carroll County, were reviewed, and supporting condominium documents were provided. Scott moved approval of the necessary correction; Chris seconded the motion, and all approved.

Other business: The MTAG (Municipal Technical Assistance Grant) Application for a grant request to Plan NH is due on September 29. If awarded the grant, a consultant would be hired to help Jackson identify ways that housing opportunities might be increased through new market solutions, new zoning, and other efforts - including increasing public awareness. Betsey stated that she and Scott have volunteered to prepare the grant application, along with two others (Jim Wasco and Gail Doktor) who are aware of the need for solutions to housing shortages currently limiting opportunities for younger families to live in Jackson, and that may be complicating senior citizens' hopes to remain in town when their existing homes are too large and not readily adaptable for possible handicapped living. Betsey circulated a suggested first page of the application, answering basic town demographic, and other, questions. Discussions ensued about where such housing might be located, how to make it work, etc., until we commented that such questions might be answered through working with a consultant if we are awarded the grant. Part of the program would be to provide information and gather public opinion. Jackson might be in a strong position in the grant process because we have made various attempts to encourage increased housing opportunities, and because we have referenced housing needs in our recently revised Master Plan. During the next few weeks, the grant group will figure what types of work would be needed, research possible consultants that might provide the necessary work, determine likely costs, and present our findings to the September 14 Planning Board meeting for review. When it is determined what dollar amount is needed for the grant request, we will need to apply for another grant to provide the necessary 25% match, probably requesting that match from NH Housing Finance Authority. Board voters agreed to proceed with the grant process.

Review of Master Plan goals: Scott suggested that we start to focus on the Economic Development goal in our Master Plan, indicating that steps to improve our local economy might also improve our housing opportunities. We agreed to place work on that goal onto our September agenda.

Dick moved to adjourn, and Chris seconded the motion; all favored, so the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Betsey Harding

(Note: an audio-visual record of the meeting may be found on Jacksonflicks.com)