**Canaan Planning Commission**

**Minutes July 10, 2024**

Attendees: Planning Commission - Gail Fisher, Margaret Knapp, Julie Geroux, Larry Pryor, NVDA – Jesse Noone

Guests: Chris Masson, Terrie Herr, Zach Brown

1. Gail called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
2. Quorum was established.
3. Larry made a motion to approve the June Meeting Minutes. Motion was seconded by Margaret and approved.
4. Chris Masson – Community Forest

The community forest recently completed its forest management plan with the county forester. Jesse will follow up with Chris to ensure the basics of that plan are in the town plan update.

1. Terrie Herr – Canaan Naturally Connected

Canaan Naturally Connected (CNC) expressed that the town could best support their efforts by backing any and all grants that the non-profit pursues. It was suggested that another municipal position could be created to maintain any future administration of any grants.

1. Junkyard Buildings

The increase in these buildings was discussed on what can be done. It was suggested to inquire about potential ordinances that could deter that.

1. Attracting New Business

On the topic of prioritizing attracting specific industry, Terrie made a great point that adjacent communities’ assets should be considered when making suggestions and how they could be supporting industries and/or fill missing gaps. For example, Pittsburgh has a large tourist economy whereas Colebrook has many essential services. Gail made a recommendation that rather than fill the void from Ethan Allen attract another manufacturing industry to bring industry that needs at-home workers. With this though, it was acknowledged that the housing stock would have to be improved. It was also noted that locals have excellent work ethic and could fill many roles.

1. The Arts in the Town Plan

Lastly, an excellent point was brought up to include in the town plan something to incorporate the arts and expression of culture in the plan. Creative placemaking is an excellent way to get the community together and either beautify and/or commemorate a section of town.

1. Julie made a motion to Adjourn which was seconded by Margaret. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.