

Approved 9-25-2017 by PK and DR

Short Term Rentals (STR) Subcommittee

Sept. 18, 2017

Superintendent's Conference Room

Lenox Town Hall

1:30 p.m.

Attending: Pam Kueber (PK), Kate McNulty-Vaughan (KMV), David Neubert (DN), Deb Rimmner (DR)

Absent with notification: Molly Elliott, Ken Fowler

Documents used during the meeting:

- Sept 11 minutes
- Draft of Outreach materials (two stapled documents – Pam's email input and Deb's revised summary including other notes)

Discussion:

- **Minutes** -- Review and approve minutes for Sept. 11 meeting – The group deferred review of the minutes.
- **Open Comment** -- Citizen's open comment, with approval of chair – There were no citizen comments, but Pam informed the group that she had fielded a call from a homeowner asking for information on our efforts. His concern revolved around whether, if the bylaw changed, we would grandfather existing, non-owner-occupied homes that had been operating as Short-Term Rentals. He may attend one of our meetings in the future.
- **Nov. warrant** -- Deborah updated the group on the Planning Board's discussion/decision on whether to put any clarifying language on the Nov. warrant. The Planning Board did not want to do this, instead preferring to continue the outreach efforts and then present voters with a complete package at the May town meeting.
- **Host Compliance and Building Code** -- Pam said that the Town Manager had approved our request to sign up for HostCompliance.com's package to identify the number and variety of short-term rentals operating in Lenox. Pam also relayed a message from Town Planner, who had heard from our building inspector that the new building code will treat single family home lodging rentals of 5 or more rooms as a commercial use--and that's not 5 bedrooms but just 5 rooms. Deb asked if she should try to reach out to the Building Commissioner for more info, but it was agreed for now that we would do that a bit later.
- **Outreach materials** -- The group reviewed Deborah's work on the survey questions. There was discussion about consolidating several demographic questions and about possible new wording for opinion questions. Deb will rework the proposal and also try to connect with David Neubert for his review before bringing the updated to our next meeting.
- **Next meeting** -- Key items for the next meeting: Continue work on the survey.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kueber

9/20/2017

PJK