

Short -Term Rental Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 5, 2024

Members present:

Richard Gerken
Ann Butler
Jamie Irving
Rob Jutton
Dave Thorpe

Staff present:

Genie Smith
Troy Brown

The meeting was called to order at 8:40 AM by Chairman Gerken. Dave moved to approve the minutes of 12/22/23 and Rob seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The Committee discussed licensing: There were 4 license agreement examples shared with the Committee. The Towns of Alton, Sunapee, Freedom, & Gilford

Mr. Gerken handed out three major areas of work for the Committee to consider put together by Mr. Thorpe. 3 Areas of Consideration – Application, Administration and Cost & Fees.

Mr. Gerken gave an overview- To make process work it takes money and staff. Will need dedicated fees to cover the cost. Discussion about manhours that may be required to establish fees. All agree that Administration is the meat of the work. Mr. Thorpe has offered to do a matrix of the 4 applications to assist with deciphering the best for Meredith.

Mr. Jutton- Alton's licensing agreement is being met with some confusion on compliance and some grumbling. Alton's process is about a year ahead of us.

- Discussion about how long and when licensing would be done, i.e., annually, every two years. When during the year would renewals happen?
- Who is going to be responsible for renewals?
- Sunapee has everything online. Discussion continued about whether or not it would be financially feasible and whether the new system the town will be using can handle the licensing piece.

Discussion about licensing options.

Mr. Jutton has volunteered to get in touch with Jamie Silverstein in Sunapee to get a demonstration of their online STR licensing and bring a report back to the Committee.

Discussion about adding 2 more members to this committee. Would like 2 members from the community and at least one has an STR.

Jutton moved that 2 members of the public be appointed to the STR Committee with one member having STR experience- Ann seconded – Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion about tiered fees vs self-funding.

- Benefits of flat fee vs. tiered
- How to offset admin costs with fees
- Renter's fees should reflect their cost

The next meeting will be on Friday, 1/12 at 8:30AM in the Annex

The meeting adjourned at 09:30 AM.