

**Report to the town board from Durham Connect (formerly, CoPIC)**

**by Joan Breslin (Chair) and Bernard Rivers (Deputy Chair)**

**15 March 2021**

Here are the activities over the past two months of *Durham Connect* (the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee) and its working groups.

We met via Zoom on 13 March 2021 and reviewed progress on active projects. We have thus far delivered on three projects and we are actively working on seven more, as follows:

Led by	Project	Project status	
		A: Project has been delivered (with more to come)	B: Project is being actively worked on (with anticipated delivery date)
Communications working group (Convenor: Karen Rivers)	1. Write and publish town newsletter every six months	X	
	2. Organize town annual report		X (May)
	3. Organize June 5 town annual meeting		X (June)
	4. Organize/propose town website enhancements		X (possibly by June)
Broadband working group (Convenor: Rosemary O'Brien)	5. Organize town WiFi hotspot(s)	X	
	6. Produce a report and map on broadband access and options		X (by April)
Economic Development working group (Convenor: Joanne Schindelheim)	7. Organize annual flu-shot clinic	X	
	8. Help improve online access to information on starting a business and on building-code requirements		X (2 <sup>nd</sup> half of year)
Historical working group (Convenor: Dan Clifton)	9. Clean/repair cemetery headstones		X (Various dates this year)
	10. Provide enhanced history pages at town website		X (2 <sup>nd</sup> half of year)

We also reviewed a list of further possible projects. These will be launched as and when we find committed volunteers to work on them. We plan an email blast during April or May seeking such volunteers.

We are taking Tal Rappleyea up on his generous offer to assist us on a pro bono basis to set up Durham Connect as a tax-exempt nonprofit organization. After the nonprofit has been established, we will seek funding to cover that part of the cost of the November 2021 newsletter than will not be covered by the town.

We agreed that Joan Breslin would ask members of the town board to gather for an hour (probably immediately prior to one of their regular board meetings) for a discussion with two or three of us on what the town board's objectives and desired features are for the town website.

The next Durham Connect meeting will be on April 10.

Further details on Durham Connect and its working groups, and a copy of this report, are provided at [www.durhamtogether.com/comprehensive-plan](http://www.durhamtogether.com/comprehensive-plan).