

## **Interested in our town's Zoning and Planning?**

The Planning Board is tasked with land use planning for Shutesbury. The Board is looking for one associate member to complete its roster. Associate members are crucially important for considering special permit applications when any of the regular members are unable to participate.

**Time Commitment:** Participation as an associate member is episodic. Associate members usually attend regular board meetings, which generally occur on the second Monday of each month, and may be designated by the chair to act as full member on a particular matter when an elected member of the board is recused, absent, or unable to act. The time commitment will vary depending upon the nature of the particular matter. For example, the special permit process may extend over a period of several months and continued participation once the process has begun is essential. While under normal circumstances, associate members cannot vote, but as an official part of the board, they are welcome to engage in discussion and are asked to keep abreast of board developments.

**Qualifications:** Applicants should be able to be impartial and objective (despite personal opinions) when reviewing projects. A planning background or related experience is not required but applicants should be willing and able to learn and apply state law and town regulations, with support from current members. Attention to detail is important. Given continued online meetings of the Planning Board, candidates must need to be able to access the Internet for meetings. As noted, the Planning Board needs someone who, if needed, can commit to regular participation over an extended period of time.

**Process:** The process of applying involves submission of a short, written statement of interest, followed by discussion with the Planning Board members during a regularly scheduled meeting. Following a recommendation by the Planning Board, candidates will need to be jointly appointed by the Select Board and the Planning Board. Please send a paragraph or two that includes information about your background, qualifications and why you are interested in becoming an associate member to [planning@shutesbury.org](mailto:planning@shutesbury.org).

**More Information:** Questions may be directed to Nathan Murphy, Chair at [shutesbury.nathan.murphy@gmail.com](mailto:shutesbury.nathan.murphy@gmail.com). Information about the Planning Board can be found at: [https://www.shutesbury.org/planning\\_board](https://www.shutesbury.org/planning_board).