

Cherryfield Planning Board

2022 Highlights

New Planning Board members welcomed to the team in 2022 are Billie-Jo Brooks and Shawn Tucker.

Planning Board meetings are now held on the **3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm** – this new date was determined in January 2023. Please make a note on your calendar – we welcome community members to join us. Meetings are held at the Town Office.

The job of the Cherryfield Planning Board is to ensure that land development in Cherryfield meets the requirements of the current Land Use Ordinance, and to develop new ordinances that support the community's long range goals, which are outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. Both the Land Use Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan are developed and approved by Cherryfield citizens. Any proposed changes must go through public review and voting.

The primary land use ordinance topic for 2022 was whether or not to allow cannabis businesses to operate in Cherryfield. Two public discussions were held in 2021 to gather input in order to develop a draft. In 2022, the Planning Board held two public hearings on a proposed land use ordinance that would allow and regulate cannabis business establishments in Cherryfield. The ordinance was voted on during the November election and failed to pass. Therefore, no medical or adult use cannabis businesses of any type are allowed to operate in Cherryfield.

Other land-use topics brought to the Planning Board for discussion on multiple occasions throughout 2022 include short-term rentals in village neighborhoods, signage, animal control, septic system compliance, derelict structures, historic preservation, and enforcement of existing ordinances. As we explore these topics related to Cherryfield's long range vision, we would like to hear about your thoughts, observations, and experiences. Please send us an email or attend a meeting. Visit the Town website www.cherryfieldmaine.us to find the current Land use Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan.

The Planning Board helped launch a weekly online newsletter to share news and information from boards and committees of the Town and school. This is a partnership between Cherryfield citizens and the Town to provide better access to information and increase citizen involvement in municipal processes. Abigail Beal has done an amazing job launching this project and has volunteered many hours of her time to collecting announcements from numerous municipal groups, writing the newsletter, gathering citizen contact information, and much more – thank you Abigail! Sign up for the newsletter and stay up to date with what's happening around town at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HDL9R9D>, or in person at the Town Office.

Please contact the Planning Board by calling or emailing the Cherryfield Town Office at (207) 546-2376; townofcherryfield@yahoo.com.