**TA Update**

*July 23, 2018*

**Committees and Boards**

Both the House and Senate have passed short-term rental bills (for Airbnb and similar services) and it’s been in conference committee since April 11th. The House voted in March, passing their bill 118-30, and the Senate voted in April 4, 2018, passing their bill 31-6, but they had differences, and were sent to conference, also in April, with no activity since then. In order to take advantage of it, the Town would need to adopt the local room occupancy excise; as you saw, I included language for the Fall Town Meeting to that effect. The Planning Board should also adopt language regarding lodging houses, which would assist the Board of Health in inspections.

The Planning Board has scheduled a public hearing on the marijuana by-law in the Town Hall general purpose room on Monday, September 17, 2018 from 7-9 p.m.

**Departments**

At Phil’s urging, I have asked everyone with a Town of Conway e-mail to include as an automatic electronic signature the following text:

NOTICE: All electronic Messages sent from the Town of Conway are archived in conformance with Massachusetts and federal Public Records law. *Town of Conway email messages are public records except when they fall under one of the specific statutory exemptions. This message and the documents attached to it, if any, are intended only for the use of the addressee and may contain information that is PRIVILEGED and CONFIDENTIAL. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please delete all electronic copies of this message and its attachments, if any, destroy any hard copies you may have created, and notify me immediately.*

New cherry sheets are out based on the legislative budget conference committee’s budget. Total aid was originally estimated at $1,039,545, and charges at 200,736, for a net aid figure of $838, 809. With substantially increased school choice receiving tuition, along with smaller increases, and reduced charges from choice and charter schools, the conference committee’s local aid would total $1,101,794, with charges of $93,155, for a net aid figure of $1,008,639. This is $169,830 higher than expected in January.

We have been approached by the Community Action Youth Programs summer intern program. I am reviewing possible tasks suitable for interns.

The Town Clerk was given a painting for the Town by a past resident. It is a detail of the Library.

We have received an application form for the new Housing Choice Small Town Capital Grant program. I’ve looked through the application and don’t find it a good fit for Conway, at least this year. If we want to get into developing or improving housing stock, I’d be more than happy to talk with any Select Board member; please let me know if you’d like to see the application form.

The transition to Comcast as our IT provider went very smoothly, thanks to our IT consultant’s preparation and on-site assistance. Download speeds are noticeably quicker.