



MINUTES
NASHUA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
September 21, 2005

Members Present:

John Eresian, Chair, Hollis	Tom Koenig, Merrimack
Martin Michaelis, Amherst	Donald Wunderlich, Merrimack
Bradley Vear, Amherst (A)	Nelson, Disco, Merrimack
Jay Hennessey, Amherst	Richard Roulx, Merrimack
Helen Fenske, Brookline	Kathy Hersh, Nashua
Linda Saari, Brookline	Jean-Guy Bergeron, Pelham
Therry Neilsen-Steinhardt, Brookline (A)	Tom Collins, Pelham
Richard Maddox, Hudson	Leo Thibeault, Pelham
Howard Dilworth, Jr., Hudson	Becky Ohler, NH DES
Thaddeus Luszy, Hudson	
Suellen Seabury Quinlan, Hudson	
Robert Kostecki, Hudson (A)	

Staff Present:

Steve Williams, Executive Director	Camille Pattison
Kerrie Diers, Assistant Director	Carolyn Griffin
Steve Schaffer, GIS Manager	

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Privilege of the Floor

There were no members of the public in attendance who wished to speak.

Introduction of New Members

The Chair introduced and welcomed three new Commissioners: Linda Saari, Brookline; Therry Neilsen-Steinhardt, Brookline; Joe Torre, Wilton.

Approval of Minutes - June 15, 2005

It was moved by Jean-Guy Bergeron, seconded by Helen Fenske:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on June 15, 2005
be approved.

The motion carried with Tom Koenig, Therry Neilsen-Steinhardt and Becky Ohler abstaining.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman's Report

John Eresian led a moment of silence in memory of the late Ann Seabury of Hudson. Nelson Disco was recognized and congratulated for his award for Citizen Planner of the Year. This was given by the New England Chapter of the American Planning Association.

NRPC Regional Plan

Steve Williams gave an overview of the NRPC Regional Plan Development Process that is to be completed by October 2007. Discussions were initiated concerning the five major questions that will be the focus of the plan. The five questions are: where the NRPC region stands today and where it is going in the next 20 years, important issues to be faced in the next 20 years, which issues can be impacted as a region, what strategies should be used, and how can the NRPC and member municipalities work



together to implement the strategies. For each of the questions, group discussion was had concerning the purpose, process, products, and outreach and input of each. Several points were made concerning a web survey for information gathering, with thought being positive for using this method.

Part of the plan includes the NRPC Region Buildout Impact Analysis which will identify the direction the region will head in the next 20 years, based on existing trends and policies. Each commissioner received a copy of the Buildout Impact Analysis as part of their meeting packet. Steve emphasized that there are no "should" statements, that this is an extensive data analysis input piece to the regional plan process. Steve Schaffer, GIS manager, was complimented on his work in developing this.

Commuter Rail Project

Steve Williams went over the latest Nashua-Lowell Commuter Rail Fact Sheet. This included an updated summary of the project description, funding, current tasks, Fall 2005 projects and 2006 alternatives. Proposed Commuter Rail Legislation was also discussed. The group gave input to the legislation, with the issue of liability being discussed.

Program Reports

Land Use Programs

Assistant Director Kerrie Diers presented current Land Use projects being worked on. These included City of Nashua and Use Ordinance Update, Citizen and Professional Planner Training, Greater Nashua Public Health Network, and Pelham Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Transportation

Senior Transportation Planner Camille Pattison gave a report on some current Transportation projects: NH 130 Corridor Study, NH 101A Corridor, NH 13, and Wilton Sidewalks project.

Environmental

Kerrie Diers discussed several environmental projects being conducted: the Regional Environmental Planning Program, Pennichuck Brook Water Quality Monitoring program, NHOEM Hazard Mitigation, NHDES Mutual Aid Study, Household Hazardous Waste Program, and the Brownfields Assessment program. Nelson Disco also mentioned the Souhegan River and Lower Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee groups.

Commissioner's Roundtable

John suggested that the December 21 meeting be changed to December 14 due to the 21st being near the holidays. The group agreed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Williams, Official Recorder.