



MINUTES
NASHUA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
March 15, 2006
(As Amended)

Members Present:

John Eresian, Chair, Hollis	Ray Peebles, Litchfield
Marilyn Peterman, Amherst	Donald Wunderlich, Merrimack
Martin Michaelis, Amherst	Bill Parker, Milford
Bradley Vear, Amherst (A)	Noreen O'Connell, Milford
Jay Hennessey, Amherst	Janet Langdell, Milford
Linda Saari, Brookline	Mike Fimbel, Mont Vernon
Helen Fenske, Brookline	Brian McCarthy, Nashua
Howard Dilworth, Jr., Hudson	Jean-Guy Bergeron, Pelham
Suellen Seabury Quinlan	Tom Collins, Pelham
Robert KostECKI, Hudson (A)	Joe Torre, Wilton
Brion Carroll, Hudson (A)	Becky Ohler, NH DES
Richard Maddox, Hudson	

Staff Present:

Steve Williams, Executive Director	Camille Pattison, Sr. Transportation Planner
Kerrie Diers, Assistant Director	Shirley Vance, Executive Assistant
Steve Schaffer, GIS Manager	

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05 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 Janet Langdell, a new Commissioner representing the Town of Milford. Jean-Guy Bergeron introduced Jeff Gowan, Planning Director for the Town of Pelham who was visiting this evening.

Approval of Minutes -December 14, 2005

It was moved by Jean-Guy Bergeron, seconded by Don Wunderlich:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on December 14, 2005
be approved.

The motion carried with 4 abstentions.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that all was going well. The Executive Committee had reviewed a preliminary draft budget for FY 2007 prepared by the Executive Director. The budget will be presented to the full Commission for adoption at the June meeting.

Nominating Committee

Marilyn Peterman, Mike Fimbel and Ray Peebles were appointed by the Chairman to the Nominating Committee. This Committee will make nominations for the Executive Committee and officers. The appointments will be announced at the June meeting.



State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Amendment #8 and Air Quality Conformity Determination

Camille Pattison noted that as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Nashua Metropolitan Area, NRPC is required to review and approve any proposed amendment to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for projects in the Nashua region. This document represents the list of projects that the state proposes to construct with federal funds. NRPC has recently received Amendment #8 to the adopted 2005 -2007 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. This amendment includes the changes to two projects:

1. Commuter Bus to Boston: Addition of an intercity bus service from Exit 6 and Exit 8 in Nashua to South Station and Logan Airport in Boston, MA. This project includes purchasing four commuter coaches, providing nine round trips each weekday, and capital improvements to the park and ride lot and Welcome Center to provide enhanced security, ticketing facilities and other passenger amenities. NRPC placed a legal notice in the Nashua Telegraph and is accepted public comments through Friday, March 10th, 2006. On February 15, 2006 the TTAC voted to recommend approval of this amendment to the NRPC Commission. The Nashua Metropolitan Area Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2005-2014 has been updated, on page 21, to reflect the addition of the intercity bus service project. The Commission recommended approval of this project to NH DOT at the December 2005 meeting. Copies of comments from the public (very positive) are provided as handouts as well as comments from Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) staff on very minor changes that should not significantly impact air quality.
2. The TIP and STIP has also been updated to reflect a funding increase of \$300,000 for a Utility Bridge over the Nashua River in downtown Nashua. A small amount of funding remained in FY 05 for Preliminary Engineering, with the majority of the funding shown in FY 06 for construction of the project. On February 15, 2006 the TTAC voted to approve this administrative adjustment and the funding increase for this project. This administrative adjustment increases funding by \$300,000 as shown on the handout.

After further discussion, it was moved by Marilyn Peterman, seconded by Suellen Seabury Quinlan:

THAT STIP Amendment #8 and the associated Air Quality Conformity Determination be approved.

The motion carried unanimously.

FY 2006-2007 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment (UPWP)

Steve Williams presented proposed amendments to the adopted FY 2006-2007 UPWP. They are proposed at this time to allow NRPC to access additional transportation planning funds provided in the 2005 Transportation Reauthorization (SAFTEA-LU). Planning funds to MPOs nationwide have been increased by 25%. We will receive \$260,000 in additional funds. Two new programs are proposed to provide additional transportation services.

Regional Plan: Work on our Regional Plan is an eligible activity under the federal guidelines. There are five activities:

1. Identify where the NRPC stands today and where it is going over the next 20 years.
2. Identify the most important issues facing the NRPC regions over the next 20 years.
3. Determine which regional issues we can impact.
4. Develop Strategies to address the issues.



5. Determine methods that NRPC and member municipalities can work together to implement the strategies.

Smart Growth Planning: This program will provide technical assistance to member local governments to implement smart growth planning techniques. With reductions in funding for transportation improvements at the federal and state level it is increasingly clear that the NRPC cannot expect the construction of major new facilities to serve increased transportation needs. As a result, NRPC and the municipalities of the region must work together to guide land use to reduce dependence on private auto as the primary transportation mode and to improve the efficiency of the transportation system. This element will assist communities with coordinating both transportation and land use systems to successfully guide development and address issues such as automobile dependency and development patterns which hinder the implementation of a multi-modal transportation system. There are four activities:

1. Technical Assistance
2. Land Use Advisory Committee
3. Training
4. Ordinances

After further discussion, it was moved by Ray Peeples, seconded by Don Wunderlich:

THAT the UPWP amendment as proposed be approved.

The motion carried unanimously.

Regional Plan

Steve Williams reported that NRPC has been meeting with groups of people representing different constituencies in the region and identifying key trends which will impact the region in the coming 10 to 20 year time frame. Both Steve Williams and Steve Schaffer gave a PowerPoint presentation which presented data that has been developed based on those discussions. Much discussion about the data presented took place. It was stated that it was an excellent presentation which should be distributed extensively. NRPC will be taking this show, combined with the Buildout Study "on the road" to all of our communities. It was suggested that the presentation be taped so that it could be show on local public access television programs. Each presentation will be targeted to the individual community.

Bylaws Amendments

Steve Williams said that the current NRPC Bylaws have not been updated or amended since 1993. A Bylaws Committee had been formed consisting of Martin Michaelis, Kathy Hersh, Suellen Seabury Quinlan, and Steve Williams as an ex-officio member. Martin Michaelis stated that amendments were proposed to clean up inconsistencies in the Bylaws and did not make any major changes in policies. Following are some of the proposed major changes:

- Executive Committee: Proposing a nine member Executive Committee (3 officers and six at-large members)
- Nominating Committee: Proposing that the Nominating Committee not only propose a slate of officers but also the at-large members of the Executive Committee.
- Term Limits: Proposing set term limits for Executive Members.
- Schedule of Meetings: Proposing that the Bylaws note that meetings shall be held quarterly, and removing the specific statement that they should be held "on the third Wednesday of the months of September, December, March and June."



- Fixed Assets: Proposing to allow the Executive Committee to designate the minimum value of items considered as fixed assets.
- Standing Rules: Proposing to eliminate the Standing Rules and incorporate the unique sections into the Bylaws (no policy changes).

Williams stated that two motions were needed this evening. One to adopt the Bylaws and the second to nullify the Standing Rules.

Much discussion followed regarding term limits, flexible vs. a set meeting schedule, removal of commissioners for non-attendance, etc.

It was moved by Brad Vear, seconded by Martin Michaelis:

TO amend page 3, lines 16 and 17 to read 9 consecutive terms

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Brion Carroll, seconded by Rick Maddox:

TO amend page 2, line 15 to keep the following sentence:
Unless otherwise specified by the Chairman of the Commission. . .

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved Jay Hennessey, seconded by Rick Maddox:

TO amend page 3, line 14 to strike (*Commissioners and Alternates*).

The motion carried unanimously.

It was then moved by Marilyn Peterman, seconded by Brion Carroll:

THAT the NRPC Bylaws as proposed with the above amendments be approved.

On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.
(See attached for roll call vote).

It was moved by Marilyn Peterman, seconded by Jean-Guy Bergeron:

THAT the NRPC Standing Rules be nullified.

The motion carried unanimously.

It was noted that Brian McCarthy has been appointed to the Commission for a 2-year term. Jean-Guy Bergeron read a letter of resignation from fellow Commissioner from Pelham, Leo Thibeault.

Program Reports

Due to the late hour, the Program Reports discussion was dispensed with. Written copies were in the packets.



Commissioner's Roundtable

A Commissioners' Roundtable was held.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Williams".

Stephen Williams, Official Recorder.

#201N-27

NASHUA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
March 15, 2006
Bylaws Adoption Roll Call Vote

Name	Yes	No	Present
AMHERST: MARILYN PETERMAN	✓		✓
MARTIN MICHAELIS	✓		✓
BRADLEY VEAR (A)			✓
JAY HENNESSEY	✓		✓
BROOKLINE: LINDA SAARI			
HELEN FENSKE			
THERRY NEILSEN-STEINHARDT (A)			
HOLLIS: JOHN ERESIAN	✓		✓
SUSAN DURHAM			
HUDSON: RICHARD MADDOX	✓		✓
HOWARD DILWORTH, JR.	✓		✓
SUELLEN SEABURY QUINLAN	✓		✓
THADDEUS LUSZEY			
ROBERT KOSTECKI (A)			✓
BRION CARROLL (A)			✓
LITCHFIELD: RAY PEEPLES	✓		✓
LYNDEBOROUGH: DWIGHT SOWERBY			
TRACY TURNER			
MERRIMACK: TOM KOENIG			
NELSON DISCO			
RICHARD ROULX			
DONALD WUNDERLICH (A)	✓		✓
KARIN ELMER (A)			
MILFORD: BILL PARKER			
NOREEN O'CONNELL			
JANET LANGDELL	✓		✓
MONT VERNON: MIKE FIMBEL	✓		✓
JOHNNA CARPENTER			
NASHUA: ROBERT DION			
BRIAN MCCARTHY	✓		✓
KATHY HERSH			
STEVE FARKAS			
MARK PLAMONDON (A)			
STEVE BOLTON (A)			
ROGER HOUSTON (A)			
BETTE LASKY (A)			
PELHAM: JEAN-GUY BERGERON	✓		✓
TOM COLLINS	✓		✓
WILTON: DAVID GLINES			
JOE TORRE	✓		✓