



MINUTES
NASHUA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
August 21, 2002

Members Present: Frank Bolmarcich, Vice-Chairman, Nashua
Diane Nilsson, Treasurer, Wilton
Martin Michaelis, Amherst
Paul Wenger, Amherst
John Harvey [for Anne Krantz], Amherst
John Eresian, Hollis
Frank Ballou, Hollis
Leonard Smith, Hudson
Howard Dilworth, Jr., Hudson
Ann Seabury, Hudson
Jean Weston, Merrimack
Nelson Disco, Merrimack
Donald Wunderlich, Merrimack
Vicky Arico, Mont Vernon
Kathy Hersh, Nashua
Becky Ohler, NH DES
Bob Lyford, NH DOT

Others Present:

Staff Present: Andrew Singelakis
Ray Guarino
Betsy Hahn
Koren Melfi
Angie Rapp
Shirley Vance
John Vogl
Matt Waitkins
Steve Williams

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Privilege of the Floor

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

Introduction of New Members

There were no new members at the meeting, but John Harvey from the Amherst Conservation Commission who was sitting in for Anne Krantz, was introduced.

Approval of Minutes - June 19, 2002

It was the moved by John Eresian, seconded by Nelson Disco:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on June 19, 2002
be approved.

The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

Every two years, the NRPC is required to meet in August to adopt the region's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Air Quality Conformity Analysis. The Long Range Transportation Plan is the region's transportation policy. The TIP is a list of specific projects that will be developed in the coming three year period (Federal FY03 to FY05) to implement that policy. The Air Quality Conformity Analysis is a document that demonstrates that the region's adopted LRTP and TIP conform to the State Implementation Plan for air quality and will result in attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. All three documents are required to be consistent. NRPC's documents must also be coordinated with the documents from the other two MPOs that make up the Southern New Hampshire Air Basin. As a result, it has been the practice of the MPOs to develop the three documents every two years on an



agreed upon schedule. At this meeting the Commission is being asked to conduct a public hearing and then take action on all three documents based on recommendations from the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee. During this year, primarily due to new emission factors, conformity was difficult to achieve for the three MPOs. Due to these difficulties, the TIP can only be conditionally approved during this meeting. We are suggesting that the Commission authorize the Executive Committee to vote and act upon the TIP at its September meeting.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Steve Williams discussed the elements of the above-mentioned reports. Projects included roads issues, bicycle/pedestrian uses, transit, freight, rail, etc. A 20 year horizon is used to include all of the projects, but they are also fiscally constrained.

After the presentation was completed, the public hearing was opened. Lenny Smith questioned the Circumferential Highway project. It seems that it keeps getting pushed forward. Discussion followed on the lack of funding which is designated by the Legislature. The Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) had expressed concerns that the State had not yet approved their Ten Year Plan (STIP). Nelson Disco questioned what the TTAC had recommended at their meeting earlier today. They had: 1) adopted the LRTP; 2) delegated the NRPC Executive Committee to authorize approval of the TIP at their September meeting; and 3) adopted the Air Quality Conformity Analyses.

The Public Hearing was then declared over.

After some discussion it was moved by John Eresian, seconded by Jean Weston:

THAT the Nashua Regional Planning Commission adopt the Long Range Transportation Plan and the Air Quality Conformity documents for the NRPC region.

The motion carried with Becky Ohler and Bob Lyford abstaining.

It was then moved by Donald Wunderlich, seconded by Nelson Disco:

THAT the Nashua Regional Planning Commission enable the NRPC Executive Committee to adopt the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) during its September meeting.

The motion carried with Becky Ohler and Bob Lyford abstaining.

Nominating Committee Report

Diane Nilsson stated that the Nominating Committee had proposed John Eresian to serve as Vice-Chairman of the Commission. It was then moved by Diane, seconded by Kathy Hersh:

THAT John Eresian is elected as Vice-Chairman of the NRPC.

The motion carried with John Eresian abstaining.

Executive Committee Report

Andrew noted that we will be hiring 2 new staff persons. Camille Pattison will be starting on September 4th as a Transportation Planner and a GIS person will be hired also. The Executive Committee had approved making improvements to the rest room area to accommodate work space in the back room area.



Discussion of Pennichuck Water Works Sale

Andrew discussed the issue of the sale of the Pennichuck Water Works. It is a complicated process. There are 42 intervenors who have submitted data requests to the Public Utilities Commission. Pennichuck has provided additional information. The City of Nashua is studying alternatives. It was suggested that this would be an item for discussion at a Mayor's Regional Roundtable. This is a major issue involving not only the Pennichuck Water Works, but also several smaller water systems. Andrew asked that the Executive Committee be allowed to formulate a set of formal policies to guide him in dealing with this issue. The Pennichuck Watershed Council, which is an independent water organization open to anyone interested for a membership fee, has also been formed to deal with this issue.

It was moved by Ann Seabury, seconded by John Eresian:

THAT the Executive Committee be given authority to formulate a set of formal policies for use by the Commission.

The motion carried with Becky Ohler and Bob Lyford abstaining.

Commissioners' Roundtable

A Commissioner's Roundtable was held.

It was decided that regional issues will be placed on the next Commission agenda. It was then moved by John Eresian, seconded by Jean Weston:

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Singelakis, Official Recorder