

**MINUTES
RPC ANNUAL MEETING**

**June 9, 2004
Old Salt Restaurant
Hampton, NH**

Commissioners Present: S. Hastings, Chairman, M. Gross (Hampstead)
B. Brown (Rye); F. Griffin (Exeter); M. Wool (Stratham); B. Landman, S. Kroner
(North Hampton); K. Weyler, G. Coppelman (Kingston); M. Senter (Plaistow); J. Payzant (New
Castle); R. Day, L. Smith (East Kingston); J. Gigante, R. Cooney, (Salem); P. Griffin
(Windham); T. Tocci (Hampton Falls); W. Bambury (Hampton)

Guests: Janet Brown (Rye); Bill Scott (Salem); Ruth Griffin, Nancy Haberstroh (Exeter); Chuck
Grassie (Stratham); Jenny Landman, Deb Kroner (North Hampton); Carol Weyler (Kingston);
Don Senter (Plaistow); George Bald (Pease Development Authority); Sue Foster, Chris Foster,
Marietta Tocci (Hampton Falls); Ina Bambury (Hampton); Charles Pettengill (Madbury)

Staff: C. Sinnott (Executive Director); R. Rines (Office Administrator); A. Pettengill (Business
Manager)

6:00 – Social Hour

7:00 – Buffet Dinner

8:00 - ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

Sinnott welcomed everyone in attendance and gave a brief recap of the year. He mentioned staff changes that occurred and praised the new land use planners, Jill Robinson and David West. He commended Robert Pruyne, the new IT/GIS staffperson who had helped on a wide variety of projects in the office. He highlighted some of the accomplishments of the year including completion of the new regional travel demand model, regional purchase of high resolution aerial photography and the development of a model zoning ordinance incorporating smartgrowth principles. Commissioners reinstated the “host community” form of monthly meetings in order to gain insight into the region’s varied planning issues and the similarities that exist between communities. He

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noted a few goals for next year including the continued effort to update the regional master plan and focusing legislative efforts.

Sinnott introduced Hastings and commended her for being the “anchor” Commissioner now completing her third time as Chair over 29 years as Commissioner. He noted that she is the

second longest serving Commissioner and has always been very supportive of staff and cool under pressure. Hastings thanked the staff and Commissioners for their support.

Coppelman introduced George Bald, Executive Director, Pease Development Authority. He stated that the Pease Development Authority plays a big role in the economy of the region and it's very important for agencies such as the Planning Commission to work cooperatively with the PDA. He gave a brief bio on Mr. Bald, noting his tenure as Mayor of Somersworth for three terms, City Manager for Rochester, Economic Director for the PDA, and most recently Commissioner of the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development.

Bald thanked the Commission for asking him to participate in the meeting. He gave some history on his career and noted his appreciation of regional planning commissions and the varied roles they play in all regions of the State. He related stories from his previous experience working for municipalities and the importance having a job plays in someone's life and their feelings of self worth. He suggested that Pease has an obligation to create wealth and opportunity in the region by providing an economic forum for industry to thrive in. This in turn creates economic stability for the people who work in these businesses and in turn for the community each person lives in. He noted the four areas of responsibility that Pease has as he sees it: 1) Golf Course; 2) the Port; 3) airside development; 4) landside development. He stated that he looks forward to working with the RPC to accomplish common goals for Pease and the region.

Landman asked if the PDA has considered attempting to bring in any aerospace technology. Bald replied that they do compete for that type of industry. Brown asked how much potential there was for container business at the Port. Bald explained the nature of the container industry and that shipping by truck from Canada and New York affect the Port's ability to compete within the current markets. Day asked what the future is for the Air National Guard at Pease. Bald stated that without the Air National Guard the PDA would be in financial risk since the Guard is so heavily involved in support of the airport infrastructure. Kroner asked why housing on Pease is not part of the equation since the impact of people moving to surrounding communities because they work at Pease is so great. Bald explained that Portsmouth's zoning excludes housing on site due to the cost to the City for school and services. He suggested that this made sense at the time of the development of the original Pease Master Plan, that does not preclude revisiting those assumptions in the future.

COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING

Sinnott reflected on the recent passing of Ralph Foster from Hampton Falls. He stated that we would all miss his advice, helpfulness and interest in the Commission. The RPC was so fortunate to have Ralph as an active, committed member and he will be greatly missed. Sinnott introduced Ralph's wife Sue, and son Chris in the audience. He explained that Landman had suggested a fitting way to honor Ralph's memory by naming the RPC conference room after him. Landman conveyed his memories of working with Ralph and that he misses him very much. He then presented the plaque that will hang in the conference room naming it the Foster Room. It was decided by all that it should hang directly below the clock in honor of Ralph's passion for timeliness! Sue Foster thanked the Commission for remembering Ralph in this way.

Hastings called the business meeting to order at 9:00 p.m.

I. Minutes of May 12, 2004

*Cooney moved to approve the Minutes of May 12, 2004 as presented; Coppelman seconded. Griffin, Landman, Senter abstained. **SO VOTED.***

II. Communication- No discussion

III. Election of Officers FY 2005

Hastings referred to Attachment II - Proposed Slate of Officers and asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, *Cross moved to approve the Slate of Officers FY 05 as presented; Griffin seconded. **SO VOTED.***

IV. Awards; Recognition

Hastings recognized two commissioners for their service to the Commission: Peter Olney, Hampton – 10 years and Richard Cooney, Salem – 5 years

Sinnott thanked Hastings for work as Chairman and presented her with a gift certificate in appreciation.

V. Other Business

VI. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette L. Pettengill
Recording Secretary