

**MINUTES  
ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION**

**October 20, 2005  
Hampton NH Public Library**

*Commissioner Orientation was held from 6 to 7 p.m. to review roles and responsibilities of Commissioners.*

**Commissioners Present:** , A. Stoller, Chair, L. Maloney (Windham); G. Coppelman (Kingston); G. Klanchesser, C. Cross (Newington); F. Griffin, L. Ingram (Exeter); B. Dearborn (Greenland); J. Payzant (New Castle); D. Dodge (Seabrook); S. Kroner, B. Landman (North Hampton); B. Brown (Rye); B. Goodrich (Stratham); B. Meserve (Newfields); T. Tocci (H. Falls); W. Bambury, F. McMahon (Hampton); T. Winglass (Sandown)

**Staff Present:** C. Sinnott (Executive Director); A. Pettengill (Business Mgr); D. Wickliffe (GIS Specialist)

**I. Welcome/Introductions**

Stoller convened the meeting at 7:09 p.m. and asked for introductions from all present. She thanked Bambury and McMahon for hosting the meeting.

**II. Minutes of September 14, 2005**

*Landman moved to approve the Minutes of September 14, 2005 as presented; Coppelman seconded. **SO VOTED.***

**\*\*\*\*Agenda Items Taken out of Order\*\*\*\***

**III. Hampton Planning Update**

Jamie Steffan, Hampton Town Planner, gave an update on the planning issues in Hampton and discussed specific projects including a 48 condominium development located in an environmentally sensitive

area with 80% of the land becoming conservation easement owned by the Town. He also explained the work of the Hampton Beach Commission and fielded questions.

#### **VI. High Resolution Digital Orthophotos for SE N.H.**

David Wickliffe, RPC GIS Specialist, briefed Commissioners on new digital orthophotos soon to be available from NH Dept of Transportation and displayed an example of the resolution and clarity. Towns will have the option to add certain additional data like slopes and building footprints for a fee. He noted that seven town's standard map sets will be completed in the upcoming year. Stoller asked that this information be made available on the RPC website.

#### **IV. Transportation Enhancement Program – Project Ranking**

Bogle explained that Transportation Enhancement funds are an 80% federal and 20% local match funded program. This year the RPC region received seven applications which total \$1.5 million of federal funds. The staff has ranked each proposal based on evaluation criteria discussed with the Executive Committee. These proposals will be forwarded to the State TE Advisory Committee, which will hold hearings on the proposals and make final funding decisions in May of 2006.

Maloney expressed his disappointment with the low ranking of the Windham Depot and Museum project. She stated that this project should get points for being a multi-modal rail trail. Bogle replied that there were no points given to this project for multi-modal since this proposal is not for the trail itself but for the Depot building. Cooney expressed his displeasure with inequities of projects in the southern part of the State not appearing higher in the rankings. Sinnott reminded Commissioners that this is a base evaluation and the Commissioners may change this ranking if desired.

Bogle reviewed each project. Ingram asked that the Exeter Sidewalks project dollars be amended so that it won't include the underground utility work as part of the application. Coppelman asked how many of these projects will actually receive funding and Bogle stated that not all will be funded. Historically, there have been one to two projects funded from each region in each round. A representative for the North Hampton Sidewalk Kids project spoke regarding the effort the children have put into researching, presenting, and writing the application for town center sidewalks. Discussion followed.

Ingram noted that he would like to see the Exeter Brickyard Recreation Bike Path higher in the rankings since this project will improve a very

dangerous area. He asked that this project move to #4 position and switch with the Exeter Sidewalks project. Payzant spoke to the New Castle Route 1 Pedestrian Path. Cooney sympathized with towns requesting bikeways or sidewalks but felt that many roads and sidewalks in every town need funds for improvement and these funds should come from the town itself and should not be vying for federal enhancement funds. Bogle replied that the staff was bound to follow the criteria as approved by the Executive Committee and sidewalks are often funded with enhancement funds.

*Coppelman moved to switch #4 and #5 and to switch #3 and #7; Stoller seconded. Discussion followed. Coppelman amended his motion to list the new ranking as follows: 1) New Castle Route 1B; 2) Newfields Sidewalks; 3) Windham Depot & Museum; 4) Exeter Brickyard Path; 5) N. Hampton Sidewalk Kids; 6) Exeter Town Center Sidewalks; 7) SABR Signage. **SO VOTED w/ three opposed.***

## **VII. EPA Brownfields Program**

Stoller noted information on Brownfields Program is available at the back table and asked that all Commissioners include their email address on the attendance sheet.

## **VIII. Other Business**

- A. Executive Committee Report: No comments
- B. Distribution of Commissioner Handbook
- C. Project Updates; Project Tracking
- D. November Meeting Date: November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Salem Boys and Girls Club; Carol Murray guest speaker on various topics. Discussion followed on the reason for changing the usual commission meeting date and why Carol Murray was speaking. Sinnott noted that he is unavailable on the usual commission meeting date and Carol Murray was available on the 16<sup>th</sup>. He assumed keeping communication with the NHDOT or any State agency would be looked on favorably by Commissioners. Landman stated he wanted the discussion to include the Memorandum of Understanding for access management. Stoller suggested he email his request. Cooney requested that the opening of the 111 Bypass be included in the agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Annette L. Pettengill  
Recording Secretary