

**MINUTES
ANNUAL MEETING**

**Rockingham Planning Commission
June 13, 2018
Sheraton Harborside Hotel, Portsmouth NH**

Commissioners Present: Alissa Welch, Christina McCarthy (Raymond); Andrew Brubaker, Richard McDermott (Hampton Falls); Ann Carnaby, Barbara Kravitz (Hampton); Mike Rabideau, Francis Chase (Seabrook); Glenn Coppelman, Peter Coffin (Kingston); Jim Doggett, Mary Allen (Newton); Langdon Plumer (Exeter); Leo Gagnon (Stratham); Mike McAndrew (New Castle); Mike Turell (Atkinson); Peter Britz (Portsmouth); Phil Wilson (North Hampton); Tim Moore (Plaistow)

Guests: Sunny Kravitz, Jodi Kravitz (Hampton); Karen Plumer (Exeter); Michael Williams, Rad Nichols (COAST); Mike Edgar (Hampton State Rep); Ann McAndrew (New Castle); Sharon Turell (Atkinson); Lisa Wilson (North Hampton); Anne Weidman and Todd Hanson (Access Navigators)

Staff: Tim Roache (Executive Director); Annette Pettengill (Business Manager); Dave Walker (Transportation Manager); Robert Pruyne (GIS Systems Manager); Julie LaBranche (Senior Planner); Meredith Houghton (Intern)

1. Social Hour

2. Dinner

3. Annual Meeting Program

- I. **Welcome-Phil Wilson, Chairman:** Wilson thanked everyone for attending and noted he has enjoyed the past three years. He noted they have been years full of changes and challenges.
- II. **RPC Director Comments-Tim Roache, Executive Director:** Roache stated that he was happy to be a part of the Rockingham Planning Commission and that although it was a challenging transition for him and the staff, he tried to pay close attention to the structure of the agency and the human side as well. Some of the staff have been at the RPC for 20 plus years and had only worked for Cliff Sinnott. He went on to say that he's very proud of the staff and they have been patient and professional as the agency continues to serve its communities. Wilson read a letter from Senator Shaheen commending the RPC's work in the region.
- III. **Election of Officers/Executive Committee FY 2019**

Wilson stated the Nominating Committee of the RPC had met twice to consider nominations for Officers for the upcoming fiscal year and prior to those meetings an announcement for nominations was made at the March 9th and April 11th Commission meetings. The Nominating Committee developed a slate and Wilson read it aloud. He

asked if there were any nominations from the floor-there were none. *Turell moved to accept the proposed Slate of Officers as presented; Chase seconded. **SO VOTED.***

IV. **Guest Speakers- Todd Hanson and Anne Weideman, Access Navigators**

Todd Hanson began the presentation reviewing the course of his life and work and how his physical disabilities have affected his life. As an architect, He was always passionate about developing environments that support the physical and emotional needs of all users, but since his own life altering circumstances left him with many physical limitations, he's become even more passionate about design and planning for those with disabilities and that's what sparked Access Navigators. He explained that Access Navigators looks at accessibility on a level where most architects stop, at the threshold of buildings. Ann Weidman stated she works with Todd to engage the community and recognize the impediments to mobility in all kinds of places. She discussed the efforts they have made to bring the issue to business and restaurant owners. Entry doors, and sidewalks and curb cuts, are sometimes the places business owners don't think about when they proclaim they are handicap accessible, so having a conversation often will enlighten the business as to ways to encourage more handicap traffic.

There was a question and answer session and much discussion.

V. **Recognitions**

Roache recognized several commissioners for their longevity- 5 years: Robert Clark (Atkinson); Jim Doggett (Newton); Phil Winslow (Rye); 10 years: B. Kravitz & Mark Olson (Hampton); Phil Wilson (No. Hampton)

Roache also stated his appreciation to the Staff with the transition of leadership over the past year and gave a gift card to each member present.

Wilson presented Kravitz with a gavel as tradition dictates for the new Chairperson. Kravitz thanked Wilson for his guidance over the past three years.

VI. **Other Business & Public Comment - None**

The Annual Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Pettengill, Recording Secretary