



**New Hampshire Planners Association**

**July 28, 2017 9:15 a.m.**

NHMA – 25 Triangle Park Drive, Concord, NH

Call-in (603) 310-9300 Code 1111#

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Sara Carbonneau, Sarah Marchant, Mark Connors, Donna Benton, Ben Frost, and Shanna Saunders, Becky Hebert, Jodie Levandowski, and Scott Osgood.

Absent: Pierce Rigrod, Elizabeth Wood

**Minutes of June Meeting** – S. Osgood motioned to accept the June 23, 2017 minutes as amended. S. Carbonneau seconded the motion subject to the correction noted by Osgood; motion approved with all voting in favor. B. Hebert abstained.

1. **Legislative Committee Update** - S. Osgood provided an update. He said everything on the NHPA list is done. The Governor vetoed the bill regarding voting on variances. The Legislative Committee discussed this and felt that the way the law is currently written it gives Zoning Boards the ability to vote on each criteria anyway, but each Zoning Board would need to include this in their rules of procedure. The bill regarding paying for mailings on petitioned warrant articles was signed by the Governor. S. Osgood said the previously the mailings were paid for by the town. Person responsible for paying is the first person who signs the petition. If they don't pay, then the petition is not moving. Town may tell them they don't have to pay for it and then the town can pay. SB 57 was also signed at a ceremony in Amherst. This bill provides state aid for drinking water projects. S. Osgood said that Patricia Higgin from Hanover asked if NHPA would track bills related to transportation. S. Marchant said she thought the building officials might be getting ready to update the state building code next year. S. Osgood said that the SB 30 regarding woodland buffers for wetlands passed and HB 654 regarding short-term rentals was in a study committee.
2. **Legislative/Executive Committee/COG Retreat** – S. Saunders reported that the retreat will be on August 17<sup>th</sup>. The NHPA Executive Committee will hold their monthly meeting at the Upham-Walker House in Concord and walk to the Barely House for lunch with Legislative Committee members and the COG. After lunch the group will tour the NH State House. S. Carbonneau said she also contacted the Governor's office to organize a meet & greet. Karin Elmer is the only COG member who responded but is not available. S. Osgood said that he will provide a brief update on behalf of the Legislative Committee. After the State House tour the group can meet at Area 23 for a social hour. So far 17 people have registered.

3. **NHPA Newsletter** – M. Connors said he is just wrapping up the draft newsletter and will send it out after at the meeting. He said that Pierce was planning to send something on cyanobacteria.
4. **NHPA Annual Meeting** – J. Levandowski said that she is looking at possible venues in Claremont, Peterborough and Franklin for the annual meeting. The group discussed locations that might be suitable for hosting the annual meeting and expanded the list of places to include Laconia, Bristol and Nashua.
5. **NHPA APA Legislative Update** – B. Frost said that space may be available at NH Housing for viewing the webinar and the NHPA legislative update. It was also suggested that NHDES might have a meeting space that would work for a larger group. He will check room availability for August 25<sup>th</sup> or September 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00. The group agreed that it would be better to host this event after lunch and provide light snacks – fruit, cookies and water. The committee decided to send the invitation to NHPA members so we can get some feedback on legislative policy. B. Frost offered to also send an invitation to the municipal section of the NH Bar Association. S. Osgood said he would do a quick presentation and would invite Cordell from NHMA to talk about final legislative bulletin. S. Saunders also suggested inviting the RPC legislative group. B. Frost said that he would need to confirm the space before we send notice to members or outside groups.
6. **Planner Therapy** – The group discussed options for the next Planner Therapy. M. Connors suggested inviting the NHPA membership to Area 23 in Concord on August 17<sup>th</sup>.
7. **Updates:**
  - a. NNECAPA Liaison – S. Marchant said the advocacy conference is in September. There are representatives from Maine and Vermont also attending this year. She said most of the focus in Washington is the on the parks bill. The latest budget is dying quickly and APA is not spending much time on this budget. Richard Florida will be speaking at the conference. S. Marchant said that APA is watching CDBG and home funding closely. She also said that the House THUD was in the budget with slight cuts. The Senate committee proposed level funding both. There also appears to be more funding for bike share programs in the Bike Share Transit Act. She said the recess has been shortened but members of congress will be home to talk at the local level.
  - b. Legislative Liaison – S. Osgood nothing more to report.
  - c. PIO – D. Benton said she had emailed the notice about the Jeff Taylor fund raising event to members.
  - d. Newsletter Editor – M. Connors reviewed the articles in the newsletter including something about the Manchester and Nashua bike share programs and the variance bill that was recently vetoed by Governor Sununu. M. Connors asked for pictures from conference and other events. He also said the newsletter has a large section on grapevine updates.
  - e. PDO – Nothing more to report.
  - f. Sustainability Coordinator – Nothing to report.
  - g. Treasurer's Report – B. Frost said finances are good.
  - h. VP Report – S. Carbonneau explained that she emailed information about the Monadnock Arts Alive event to the committee. She said that Randy Cohen would be there all three days and there is a session about the economic impact of arts on communities. S.

Carbonneau reviewed the full agenda for the three day event. She explained that they want to pull in NH Planners to co-sponsor or sponsor the event and asked the committee if this was something NHPA could support financially. The group agreed it would be a good idea to support the three day event. S. Carbonneau moved to support the Arts Alive event with a contribution of \$500, S. Marchant seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about what would be the appropriate amount for a sponsorship. S. Saunders moved to sponsor the event for \$300, motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously. S. Carbonneau said that she will focus on the membership drive in late August.

- i. NNECAPA State Director – S. Saunders said that E. Wood had sent out information on the NNECAPA award nominations. She will ask E. Wood to forward the nominations on to NNECAPA.
  - j. President’s Report- S. Saunders explained that she has been contacted by Paul Susca about the study committee for pollution of drinking water. He is asking for a representative from NHPA to serve on the study committee. P. Rigrod is already on this committee through his work at NHDES. S. Osgood said that he was interested. S. Saunders will send him the meeting information and also offered to attend if he wasn’t available.
8. **Upcoming Meetings** - Next meeting is August 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 at the Upham-Walker House in Concord.
- B. Frost moved to adjourn, M. Connors seconded; all voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:26 AM.