



## **New Hampshire Planners Association**

February 6, 2015 Meeting @ 9:15 a.m.

Meeting Location: NHMA, Triangle Park Drive, Concord, NH

Members present: Sarah Marchant, Shanna Saunders, Sara Carbonneau, Elizabeth Wood (arriving at 9:45 a.m.), Mark Connors (arriving at 9:50 a.m. with coffee!), Donna Pohli and participating by phone Scott Osgood and Ben Frost. Meeting commenced at 9:15 a.m. Also present was Jodie Levandowski (leaving at 10:00 a.m.).

1. Minutes from January 16th - Thank you Scott! Consideration of minutes was deferred until March meeting. If anyone has changes or corrections, please email them to Sara C. and Scott.
2. Spring conference - Donna and Jodie. See notes re venue and theme attached. Decided that the NH Institute of Art would be a good venue – price is very reasonable and location good for walking tours. Date of conference will be Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Good selection of nearby establishments for after-hours networking. Adequate parking along street and public parking lots. NHIA does not provide food, but has provided a list of caterers. Donna/Jodie will review caterers and come back to the group with various options. (Plated meals were suggested, as we ran out of food at UNH. However, specialty sandwiches were suggested – assuming that we could make sure that we have enough.) Budget approximately \$10,000.  
Theme of conference: Mark will assist in developing the tag line for the conference, as well as associated graphics.  
Donna/Jodie suggested Mike Lydon the keynote speaker. Consensus was for Donna/Jodie to contact him to determine availability and speaker's fee.  
Following keynote speaker, Sally Wilkins and Mike ? could speak to the workforce/elderly/market rate CUP zoning ordinance (Amherst).  
Breakout sessions could include:  
Marijuana dispensaries.  
Pop-up art – contact NHIA and New Horizons.  
Clay Mitchell's research at UNH.  
Tiny houses – panel discussion with NHBOA and others.  
Social media, GIS, etc. – Fash Farashahi from Peterborough and Chris Parker.  
Downtown revitalization - Concord, Belmont, Claremont, Laconia.  
Branding your community - The Glen Group and Nancy Clarke (Sara C. to get the contact information to Donna/Jodie).

3. New Ruralism - Deferred until the March meeting, as we need additional information. Ben noted that the North Country Council is handling the money for this project. Ben will reach out to Tara Bamford and Peg Elmer to set up a conference call for the March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.
4. APA Chapter grants application/email from Carl Eppich - Sarah M. stated that there is \$22,000. nationwide and that the project must align with the APA development plan. Applications are due to Eppich by February 18<sup>th</sup>. Donna will post this on NHPA's website. Sarah M. to forward the email from Eppich to Donna.
5. Lighting round planning event – Mark provided an outline of the event and estimated costs (see attached). Scheduled for Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Centennial in Concord. Rental cost is \$150.00. Mark will have the Centennial get in touch with Ben for payment of the deposit. Recommended raising the cost to attend to \$40 (for members) and \$50 (for non-members). Need lots of appetizers, as event will be held during dinnertime (and no dinner will be provided). Save the date will go out on Monday. (Staples may be able to do this for us. Other option may be through UNH – check with Mary.) Donna to put on website and an email blast should be sent. Mark will send out a draft agenda for the event to send out to people who may be interested in speaking.  
Suggested 10 minute presenters:  
Carl Webber from Primex - lots of topics to talk about, including customer service.  
How to deal with hostile people - maybe someone else from Primex.  
No money - big ideas (if you have an idea regarding presenters, please get their names to Mark).  
10 minutes of Ethics - Ben Frost (ethics horror stories) - How to say no to that gift?
6. List Serve for Planners – Deferred until the March meeting.
7. Strategic Plan – Deferred until the March meeting.
8. Awards - Need to get this on the website a.s.a.p. We need to urge people to apply. The information about the awards and the necessary forms need to get out during the week of February 9<sup>th</sup>. Since Vermont Executive Committee reviews NH's awards, the submissions need to get to Vermont in early April. This will allow the NHPA Executive Committee time to finalize the awards at its May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Donna will post on NHPA's website and send an email blast.  
Re: NNECAPA awards. It was not clear is NNECAPA wants all of the NHPA award submissions, or just the winners. Elizabeth will check on this.
9. Officer updates –  
*Legislative Subcommittee:* ADU bill is a really important bill. Ben is working on an amendment to this bill. He is meeting with development people and NHMA and will be meeting with the sponsor on Tuesday afternoon. Feels it will go through the Senate, but not sure about the House.  
3rd party review. SB 98 is proceeding. Compromise worked out with NHMA.  
HB 368 was asked to be killed by its sponsor.

HB 591 has an executive session next week (gas tax bill). NHMA will probably have something in this week's legislative bulletin.

SB 141 (lots of support in the Senate). This bill will have a much harder time in the house. If there is energy in the house on this, it will likely pass. This bill is beneficial for developers – if NHPA membership is opposed, we should begin to develop a strategy when it goes to the Municipal and County Government Committee. There were 35 responses to SB 141 poll. 10 watch, 1 priority support, 3 support, 11 priority oppose, 10 oppose. 35 responses out of 200 members is not a good number. It was suggested scheduling a joint phone conference with the Legislative Policy Committee and the Executive Committee soon (note: has been scheduled for 2/17 at 4 p.m.)

*NNECAPA legislative liaison:* Sarah M. President's budget laid out last week. CDBG and other planning related programs have been essentially level funded.

Noted that there is a grant program to send two students to the APA conference (includes admission, room and mileage). Mary will promote at UNH. Question as to whether graduate students can apply – Mary to obtain answer.

No conference date set for Portland conference in NNECAPA. (Generally held in September or October.)

Noted that NNECAPA board has lots of turnover coming up. NNECAPA needs a new president and it is NH's turn to put forth a president. Ben stated that he does not have the time to serve as NNECAPA's president. Ben also noted that his term is coming up at PDO. Suggested that Nate Miller from Upper Valley may be interested in serving as PDO – Sarah M. indicated that she may be interested in serving as Vice President of NNECAPA.

Elizabeth stated that the deadline for the Yankee Planner is February 13<sup>th</sup>.

*Public Information Officer:* Donna stated that she had been contacted from someone seeking the mailing list. It was noted that NHPA's policy has been that no one gets the mailing list, unless they are members. Donna stated that she has had some difficulty in getting Cornerstone to migrate information from NHPA's existing website to Wild Apricot. If Donna does not have a response from Cornerstone by the end of the day (2/6), she should let Shanna know. Shanna will contact Walter at Cornerstone. If Cornerstone cannot or will not do the work, we should consider paying a professional to do this.

*Newsletter:* Scott suggested topics for this quarter's newsletter. Elizabeth to provide grapevine information, as well as bookclub. Other articles include the June conference, the March 26<sup>th</sup> event, the Capital Corridor Study (Mark), legislative update (Tim), local zoning updates. - topics for this quarter: feature on marijuana dispensary; small houses, local zoning regulation, i.e., what is on the warrants for this year. Please get articles to Scott a.s.a.p. Shanna will link Scott to people in Laconia regarding marijuana dispensaries. Elizabeth will do a review of If/Then, a Broadway musical about a planner (named Elizabeth).

*Professional Development:* Mark questioned whether video-recording brown bag sessions was a good idea. Executive Committee members felt that people would not attend if the session was available for viewing remotely. Suggested that bundling events may encourage more people to attend (such as brown bag lunch, bundled with a

Legislative Policy Committee meeting – encouraging non-LPC member’s to sit in... or brown bag lunch with a NHMA or NH Housing event).

**Treasurer’s report:** 2014 is being wrapped up. Ben has “a pile” of checks to deposit. Many municipalities are still sending in dues by check and not utilizing electronic transfers. Noted that Wild Apricot is working well.

**APA Region I Conference:** Elizabeth stated that she would be attending. Carpooling was discussed. Sara C. stated that she needed to follow-up with Thomas Transportation about bus options. Ben stated that Claudia Folska will be in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Submitted by,

Sara H. Carbonneau, Secretary