



NHPA Executive Meeting
Friday September 18, 2015 9:00AM
NHMA Offices
Concord, NH

Present: Sarah Marchant, Shanna Saunders, Mark Connors, Donna Pohli, Ben Frost, Pierce Rigrod, Elizabeth Wood
Participating by phone: Mary Friedman. Also in attendance: Jodie Levandowski. Meeting commenced at 9:20 a.m.

1. Minutes

D. Pohli moved to add 'walkability' to factors that made Portsmouth a top contender for the 2016 NNECAPA conference location (page 2 #8). Motion by D. Pohli to approve the minutes from August 8, 2015 with changes stated. Second by B. Frost. Vote: All in favor.

2. NHPA Annual Meeting (Saunders)

S. Saunders and M. Connors gave an overview of the annual meeting which has been scheduled for either late October or early November and will be on a Friday. It will be held in Newmarket, NH with possible locations being the Stone Church, non-profit mill space or the Rockingham Ballroom. The meeting will include lunch and half day professional development training. The training will possibly be a tour of Newmarket, a microbrewery or a mill building with Eric Chinburg. The idea is to make Newmarket a case study since there has been a lot of street redevelopment in recent years. S. Saunders has spoken with the Planner from Newmarket, Diane Hardy and she is receptive to our ideas. B. Frost suggested Saunders call Clay Mitchell for before and after photos of Newmarket redevelopment. S. Saunders said nothing is set in stone and these are all details that can be hashed out with the subcommittee. S. Marchant asked about elections and suggested those be done during the luncheon. B. Frost said Saunders, Levandowski, Frost, and Friedman will be on this year's ballot. B. Frost added that he and Tim Corwin are doing a legal update on statutory change status and are focusing on Agritourism and the Supreme Court Case on Reed vs. Town of Gilbert. Bylaw changes and NHPA dues structure were also discussed. A motion was made by P. Rigrod to increase individual dues to \$65 and student/retired/unemployed to \$20 and organizational to allow unlimited members at a rate of \$275. Second by B. Frost. Vote: All in favor.

3. 2016 – NNECAPA Conference (Wood)

E. Wood said they have decided on Portsmouth as the 2016 Conference location. B. Frost said we had one of the first conferences in the hotel back in 2010 and we had about 300 people in attendance and it was a bit tight. This year we can expect about 150-200 people. E. Wood said the theme would be planning and the arts and we have an amazing opportunity to get Brian Yorkey, writer of the Broadway Musical *If/Then* as the keynote speaker. E. Wood said she has been in contact with Yorkey and he's open to speaking at the 2016 Conference. Dates are to be organized around his and hotel availability. We will be contacting the Hilton Garden Inn for potential dates either around September or October. B. Frost said we want to aim high with this conference and possibly do an off location performance. S. Saunders suggested the Carsey Institute who helped out with the 2014 conference at UNH. B. Frost will put a call out for potential COG members and has offered to hold the meetings at the New Hampshire Housing Offices in Bedford on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. The first meeting will be held on October 8th at 5:00PM in Bedford. A webcast and phone connection will be made available.

4. State Chair for the Planners' Advocacy Network? (Marchant)

S. Marchant said the Planners' Advocacy Network is an APA initiative to engage in grassroots advocacy by connecting citizens with elected officials. APA is looking for a State Chair of each chapter who is active and is committed to representing their state, take responsibility for increasing participation in the network, organizing district captains, and plan events and participate in webinars. The state chairs will learn about policy issues that affect planners, engage legislators on social media, Share action alerts and information with your colleagues, attended state and national conferences. Basically we are looking for a more direct communication between federal and APA. E. Wood stated she was interested in participating and has experience working with APA at the national level and was familiar with attending conferences in Washington DC. S. Marchant said each state would nominate one person for the position. E. Wood said she would like to meet with S. Marchant on the details before fully committing. B. Frost noted he was on the APA legislature and policy committee and that he and Wood should be discussing. B. Frost could be a possible captain.

5. Advocacy Paper - NHPA "What Planners Do" (Marchant/Connors)

S. Marchant provided the proposed handout regarding the role of planners. She noted the areas for consideration include the three main "ask's" of the APA: water quality, housing and employment (especially attracting and retaining younger workers). The paper was intended to be easy to read and to the point. P. Rigrod suggested adding the source of information on the statistics referenced in the paper. The handout received high praise from the Executive Committee members.

6. Strategic Plan (Saunders)

S. Saunders and P. Rigrod to meet on this in the coming weeks. An update will be provided at the next Executive Committee meeting.

7. NHPA logo update. (Frost)

B. Frost said there has been lots of input being shared regarding colors, fonts and formatting of the logo. Just waiting for return comments from M. Connors and following that, we should be ready to submit to the logo company. B. Frost added that we could have the new logo ready for the annual meeting next month. B. Frost also noted that the North Country Councils new logo was also designed by this company.

8. Ski Event (Corwin)

S. Saunders read an email update from T. Corwin regarding the ski trip. The three potential mountains at this point are Loon Mountain in Lincoln, NH, Mount Sunapee in Sunapee, NH and Pats Peak in Henniker, NH. S. Saunders discussed the different options available from the three different mountains. The group agreed that this was something worth pursuing. E. Wood volunteered to assist T. Corwin in the planning. The group agreed that Pats Peak would be the more family friendly choice while still offering black diamond trails for the more experienced and would be closer to home for most. M. Connors will help make a ski brochure.

9. Officer Updates –

- a. NNECAPA Legislative Liaison – Marchant
- b. Legislative Liaison – Corwin – Not present for update
- c. Public Information Officer – Pohli – Not much to report on since last update. Website is working out well and we've locked in a rate with Wild Apricot.
- d. Newsletter Editor – Osgood – Not present for update. E. Wood is looking for grapevine updates for NHPA and NNECAPA.
- e. Professional Development Update – Connors – Brown Bag in Lebanon coming up for Stormwater.
- f. Sustainability Coordinator – Rigrod – Grant opportunity available for municipalities with water supply issues . Deadline is first Monday in November. Applications do need authorization from municipality
- g. Treasurer – Frost – Following up with outstanding dues.
- h. Vice President – Friedman - Not present for update
- i. NNECAPA NH State Director – Wood

10. Other business as may be required.

B. Frost announced S. Marchant was the new NNECAPA president. The group congratulated the new president. Frost read list of other newly elected positions.

B. Frost and T. Corwin are working on an Agritourism case. Forster v. Henniker. B. Frost provided a brief explanation of the case and proposal to be introduced to the senate. The term 'agritourism' is proposed to be placed within the definition of Agriculture. B. Frost also working on Reed v. Town of Gilbert case regarding sign ordinances. NHMA is taking the lead on this one. A webinar is scheduled for November 4th. Work in progress.

B. Frost said the legislative committee will be supporting a bill regarding voluntary lot mergers. The proposed bill would require mortgagee consent to merge the properties. This takes the Planning Board out of potentially creating a legal mess.

In January or February 2016, a Dartmouth Professor will be holding a professional development session on inclusionary zoning and the targeted audience is municipal officials and Board members. No date set yet

Meeting adjourned at 11:36AM

Submitted by,

Jodie Levandowski,
Secretary Pro Tem