



New Hampshire Planners Association

October 8, 2015 Meeting @ 3 p.m.

Meeting Location: NH Housing Finance Authority, Bedford, NH

Members present: Shanna Saunders, Ben Frost, Donna Pohli, and Mark Connors. By phone: Mary Adamo Friedman, Elizabeth Wood, Sarah Marchant, and Sara Carbonneau. Also on the conference call: Jodie Levandowski and JoAnne Carr. Meeting commenced at 3:13 p.m.

1. **Minutes -**

Motion by Frost to approve the minutes from September 18, 2015. Second by Connors. Vote: all in favor.

2. **NHPA Annual Meeting (Saunders)**

Elections

Bylaw amendment(s)

Marchant reminded the nominees for the Executive Committee that we need their bios. Information should be sent to Pohli for the ballot. Ballots need to be sent between 3 weeks and one month prior to the annual meeting; ballots must be returned at least 3 days prior to the meeting. All voting takes place electronically via Survey Monkey. Determined that the annual meeting will be held on November 12th in Newmarket. Information provided to the members includes a letter from the president, treasurer's report, ballot, minutes from last year's annual meeting and the candidate bios, as well as information about the annual meeting (date/time/place, etc.) Will also need to include information about the proposed amendments to the bylaws. This "packet" will be posted on line.

Connors – Annual meeting venues were discussed. Determined that the Newmarket community space on Main Street (contact is Jennifer Chinburg) would be appropriate. J. Chinburg is able to recommend vendors. Rental fee for the space is \$250.00. Noted that we would need to provide microphone, projector, and screen. We also need to rent tables and secure a caterer. In addition, a one-day insurance policy is required.

Ideas for the professional program were discussed. Saunders has spoken with Clay Mitchell and Eric Chinburg – tour and presentations. Shanna will contact other potential speakers regarding Main Street improvements and economic development in Newmarket. (Diane Hardy, Clay Mitchell, Arlen Chapman)

What is the budget for 2016? Ben will pull together some numbers and forward by email.

3. 2016 – NNECAPA Conference (Wood) The COG has selected Portsmouth – looking at the Portsmouth Harbor Events & Conference Center. Dates will likely be September 15 & 16, 2016. Looking at securing Brian Yorkey (playwrite of If/Then) as the keynote speaker. Off-site venues were also discussed including Prescott Park and 3S Art Space.

4. Net Metering Legislation (Jo Anne Carr) – Follow up on renewable energy policy and net metering statute. Reaching cap statewide. Trying to get rule change to increase the cap; also pursuing 2016 legislative proposal. Sustainable Energy Association trying to increase cap to 60 mw via a rule change, and legislatively even higher than that. The purpose of the cap is to protect the energy markets' investment. From the renewal energy side, there is a lot of energy to raise the cap and to promote the transition to renewables. Partners currently: NH Businesses for Social Responsibility, Sustainable Energy Association, (talk to Granite State Hydro Association) What is the benefit/cost for utilities? The NHPA Legislative Policy Committee can talk about this more when session starts. Carr will send more additional.
5. NNECAPA Legislative Liaison (Marchant). As president of NNECAPA Marchant can't serve as legislative liaison. If anyone is interested in serving at the NNECAPA Legislative Liaison, they should let Marchant know. Between now and December (next NHPA Executive Committee meeting when positions are established), Marchant will continue in the NNECAPA Legislative Liaison function.
6. "What Planners Do" flyer was very well received per Marchant. The NH Congressional delegation was very supportive. Marchant noted that speaking with the delegation was very positive. Suggested including our federal representatives on the NHPA newsletter mailing list.
7. NHPA logo update (Frost) Discussed images presented. Suggested adding more pines trees, covered bridge, change church to town hall, diversify the buildings, etc. Will continue this conversation by email. It is hoped that two image will be available by the annual meeting to be voted on.
8. Officer updates were deferred.
9. Other business as may be required. Discussed sending a welcome letter to the new NH DOT commissioner. Do we want to partner with the RPCs about this? Decided to go ahead immediately with sending a letter, versus waiting to get buy-in from the RPCs. Connors to draft letter.
10. Wood reported on APA advocacy efforts and the NH Primary. Noted that the new leadership at APA is supporting greater advocacy on the part of the organization. Wood noted that she would be involved in advocacy efforts, specifically attending candidate events, taking notes, asking questions, etc. Suggestion that she mention this at November 12th annual meeting and ask for volunteers to participate.

Motion to adjourn by Frost. Second by Connor. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sara H. Carbonneau, Secretary