

LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

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MINUTES
LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION
ANNUAL MEETING

Church Landing – Meredith, NH

June 16, 2014

PRESIDING: Chair Stanley Bean, Jr.**CALL TO ORDER:** 7 p.m.**QUORUM:** Yes (by Adoption)**COMMUNITIES PRESENT:** 13**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

David Kerr, Barnstead

Steve Favorite, Bristol

Tony Giunta, Franklin

Jean Marshall, Freedom

Stanley Bean, Jr., Gilmanton

Robert Snelling, Holderness

Dean Anson, Laconia

Warren Hutchins, Laconia

William Bayard, Meredith

Barbara Perry, Moultonborough

George Luciano, New Hampton

Douglas Read, Northfield

Patricia Jones, Ossipee

Patricia Farley, Tamworth

LRPC STAFF: Gerald Coogan, Marie Gelinas, Jeffrey Hayes, Michael Izard, David Jeffers, and Karin Landry Recording Secretary.

OTHERS PRESENT: Speaker: Commissioner Jeffrey Rose, NHDRED; Dignitaries: Josh Denton, Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter's Office; Chuck Henderson; Senator Jeanne Shaheen's Office; Simon Thomson, Senator Kelly Ayotte's Office; Honorable Elaine Swinford; *Alexandria:* Chet Caron, Bob Piehler, George Tuthill; *Barnstead:* Flora Kerr; *Belmont:* Peter Harris, Ken Knowlton; *Andover:* Rep. John Ratzki, Caroline Ratzki; *Bristol:* Janice DelCossa, Clay Dingman, Jodie Favorite, Sandra Heaney, Jan Laferriere, Daniel Paradis, Max and Helga Stamp; *Gilford:* Sandy Hyslop; *Gilmanton:* Alice Bean, *Freedom:* Ian Marshall; *Holderness:* Carol Snelling; *Laconia:* Betty Anson, David Bownes, Gail Denio, Mayor Ed Engler, Umija Gusinac, Mary Hutchins, Scott Kalicki, Susan Laverack, Lisa Morris, Carol Pierce, Luke & Donna Powell, Justin Slattery, Charles Smith; *Meredith:* Ann Bustler, Richard Gerken, Lynn Montana, Edward Touhey; *Moultonborough:* Cristina Ashian, Jean Beadle, Samuel Perry, Paul & Linda Punturieri, Barbara & Russell Wakefield Bruce Woodruff; *New Hampton:* Ralph Kirshner, Melody Norris, Patricia Schlesinger; *Ossipee:* Jean Simpson, Chester Kwiatkowski; *Sanbornton:* Robert Ward; *Tamworth:* Betty & David Bowles, Ann Butler, David Farley, John Gotjen, Rep. Susan Ticehurst; *Tilton:* *Juliet Harvey, Dari Sassan;* *Tuftonboro:* Sue Wingate; *CDEA:* Glenn Coppelman; and *Crede Associates:* Rip Patten.

1. Welcome and Introduction

Chairman S. Bean, Jr. made introductory remarks prior to calling the meeting to order. Over the past ten years LRPC has focused on managing growth while maintaining the quality of natural resources, and its focus will now turn to assisting communities with resiliency issues where growth has slowed down considerably. He urged Commissioners to attend upcoming meetings to help

shape the future of LRPC, particularly the September Commission meeting which will focus on the Lakes Region Plan. He introduced representatives from the offices of Congresswoman Carol Shea Porter, Senator Jeanne Shaheen, and Senator Kelly Ayotte, who made brief statements on their behalf. He introduced Representative Mario Ratzki, Representative Susan Ticehurst, and the Honorable Elaine Swinford. S. Bean introduced the Executive Board members in attendance: D. Anson, S. Bean, Jr., P. Farley, S. Favorite, W. Hutchins, G. Luciano, J. Marshall, B. Perry and R. Snelling, and LRPC Commissioners and staff stood for a round of applause. A motion to declare a quorum for the purpose of conducting business was unanimously approved. *M/S/P Perry/Luciano*. S. Bean called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

2. Approve Annual Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2013

There being no questions or comments, a motion to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2013 Annual Meeting as written was unanimously approved. *M/S/P Favorite/Perry*.

3. Election of LRPC Officers for FY 15

Secretary P. Farley announced the results of an election by secret ballot for FY14/15 Executive Board Officers, Area Commissioners and At-Large Commissioners.

Officers:

Warren Hutchins, Chairman - Laconia
Wayne Crowley, Vice Chairman – Northfield
Patricia Farley, Secretary - Tamworth
Barbara Perry, Treasurer - Moultonborough

Area Commissioners:

John Ayer - Gilford (Area 4)
John Cotton - East Andover (Area 1)
Robert Snelling – Holderness (Area 2)
Jean Marshall - Freedom (Area 3)

At-Large Commissioners:

Dean Anson, II, Laconia (Area 4)
Steve Favorite – Bristol (Area 1)
George Luciano - New Hampton (Area 2)
Steve Wingate - Tuftonboro (Area 3)

She introduced W. Hutchins as newly elected Chair, and extended good wishes to S. Bean in his retirement. W. Hutchins expressed thanks for the votes he received for Chair, and said that the LRPC is in control of its own future and its actions are not dictated by any other government or agency. He said that the Granite State Future plan will provide a source document for the region and every city and town will be able to use it as they develop their Master Plan. He highlighted S. Bean's education, personal and professional accomplishments, record of community service, and contributions to the LRPC Executive Board, and presented him with a plaque in recognition of his leadership as Chair of LRPC. S. Bean contributed his success as Chair to the members of the Executive Board and LRPC administration and staff.

4. Award Presentations

Chair Hutchins presented an Award of Excellence to the City of Laconia for the strong efforts it has taken over the past five years to protect regional water quality by installing a bio-retention basin at the foot of

White Oaks Road at Paugus Bay that captures and cleans storm water before it enters the public water supply. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the system is capable of removing 80-90% of petroleum hydrocarbons, sediments and bacteria, while absorbing most of the storm water runoff. The project is both efficient and attractive, with planting walls for a visual gateway on a heavily travelled road along the Lake. The award was accepted by Luke Powell, Assistant Director of the Laconia Department of Public Works. Mr. Powell thanked the Laconia City Manager and Director of Public Works for their support on the project.

Chair Hutchins presented an Award of Excellence to the Town of Tuftonboro, who spearheaded a program that allows townspeople to test their drinking water in an easy and economical manner by implementing a system for obtaining sampling bottles and having water samples picked up at the Town offices for testing purposes. The testing results inform property owners what elements are present in their samples and recommendations are made for treating the conditions identified. Stephen Wingate accepted the award on the Town's behalf and expressed his thanks for the recognition, and cautioned that residents of New Hampshire with a private well have a 20% chance that their water will have long term health effects.

On behalf of the Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee and the Bristol Planning Board, Max Stamp presented the B. Kimball Ayers, Jr., Award to Dan Paridis for his long term commitment to the environmental quality of the region. As a member of the Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee Mr. Paridis was involved in test sites along the river and tributaries for 15 years and served on the Bristol Planning Board for 14 years, 11 as Chair. He also served on the Bristol Capital Improvements Plan committee and was a science teacher at New Hampton School. Mr. Paridis expressed appreciation for the award and thanked the Commission for the honor, but noted that there were several other people in attendance who are equally deserving of the Award.

W. Hutchins introduced LRPC Executive Director J. Hayes. He highlighted the efforts of the nationwide search to fill the position of Executive Director, and said that J. Hayes met or exceeded the search committee's ideal candidate. He said that the Executive Committee thanks all who lead LRPC through the leadership evolution process.

5. NHDRED Commissioner Jeffrey Rose

J. Hayes introduced NH Department of Resources and Economic Development (NHDRED) Commissioner Jeffrey Rose, whose job is celebrating and preserving natural resources in a way that promotes economic development. Mr. Rose overviewed the four divisions of the Department:

Economic Development - This Division encourages and promotes economic development within the state. It includes teams that focus on existing businesses, helping them work with the public sector or finding opportunities for their company's portfolio of services and products at municipal, state and federal levels. It includes a job training department and broadband initiative team. The Division works to prepare companies for international trade and is currently focusing on New Hampshire as a cluster development for aerospace and defense companies.

Forest and Lands - New Hampshire is the second most forested state in the country, and the Division manages the state's forests, 76-84% of which are in private hands. It works with private owners to promote forestry practices, which is one of the key drivers of the state's economy. Forest management plans keep land in private hands as traditional working forest, promoting and protecting traditional uses of those lands but in a way that will preserve and protect it as well.

State Park and Recreational Opportunities - Over 90 properties are managed within the park system, including campgrounds, ski areas, mountain tops, beaches and historic sites. The Division is an important driver for economic development within the state and its focus is in trying to provide educational, recreational, and inspirational experiences for citizens and guests. Commissioner Rose shared examples of the depth and breadth of the recreational opportunities available within the state and talked about a network of snowmobile trails that is being promoted throughout the country as a destination. The Division is a self supporting system, but would not be possible without its many volunteers. An initiative to utilize technology within the Park system is underway at this time.

Travel and Tourism - The Division encourages visitors to come to New Hampshire and is funded through the Rooms and Meals tax. A successful "Live Free And" campaign is promoting New Hampshire's brand nationally and internationally for a variety of activities such as fishing, hiking, and golfing. Commissioner Rose said that the renovation of the New Hampshire Welcome Center on I93 is a public/private partnership that will dramatically increase the number of visitors to the Center. The northbound center will focus on travel and tourism and the southbound center will focus on economic development opportunities within the state.

Commissioner Rose reviewed initiatives surrounding workforce development, particularly as they relate to manufacturing. A partnership with the NH Department of Employment and NH manufacturers will expose manufacturing opportunities to middle school students throughout the state, and the pilot program will commence soon. A delegation that includes Commissioner Rose and Governor Hassen will travel to Turkey to bring new opportunities to New Hampshire businesses.

Mr. Rose responded to questions and comments posed by the audience:

- Issues pertaining to wind farms highlight the responsibility of finding a balance between affordable and reliable energy costs and recognizing that natural aesthetics are one of the main drivers of the state's economy.
- The connection to the natural environment is one of the ways to retain skilled labor and educated youth, and that efforts are being made to brand the state around its natural aesthetics. It is important for organizations such as LRPC to talk with local municipalities about how ordinances and codes passed at the local level dramatically impact the ability to grow jobs and bring in new companies for healthy, sustainable growth.
- Teams within the state that are working to help the developmentally disabled enter the workforce and more information is available to anyone with an interest.

6. Drawings

B. Perry announced Peter Harris of the Town of Belmont Planning Board as winner of the door prize.

7. Adjournment

Chair Hutchins said that the Lakes Region Plan will be the subject of the September Commission meeting and urged commissioners and local officials to help LRPC determine how to emphasize the strong points in the Plan, which will be an excellent resource for every community. He thanked those present for attending, and declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Karin Landry, Recording Secretary on behalf of Patria Farley, LRPC Secretary.