

New Hampshire Association of Regional Planning Commissions

Summary Minutes

Meeting of March 24, 2022

I. Call to Order and Introductions

In Chairman Buckley's absence, Vice Chair Peter Griffin called the meeting to order at 1:00p.m. and acknowledged that a quorum of the membership was in attendance. He explained that a member has requested to attend remotely due to concerns about Covid. He explained that this was a valid reason for attending remotely and that all votes would be conducted by roll call to meet the requirements of RSA 91:A.

Members introduced themselves as follows: Larry Robinson (SWRPC); Peter Griffin (SNRPC); James Steele (NCCRPC); Robert Snelling (LRPC), Jerry Coogan (UVRPC); Mike Tardiff (CNRPC); Jen Czysz (SRPC); Carl Eppich (SNHPC); Bill Chasson (UVRPC), Tim Murphy (SWRPC) Remote; Megan Taylor Fetter, Becky Baldwin (staff, remote)

Guest: Noah Hodgett (NHOPD)

Peter Griffin extended his condolences on behalf of the membership to Steve Buckley for the loss of a family member.

II. Minutes of December 22, 2021 Meeting

Motion by Larry Robinson, seconded by Robert Snelling to approve the minutes of December 22, 2021. Approved by a unanimous roll call vote with Larry Robinson, Peter Griffin, James Steele, Robert Snelling, Jerry Coogan, Mike Tardiff, Jen Czysz, Bill Chasson, Tim Murphy and Carl Epoch abstaining.

III. NHARPC - NHMA Partnership

A. Town & City Articles for 2022

Jen Czysz reported that at last week's RPC meeting, the directors agreed on the schedule for NHMA'S Town and City Articles as follows:

- March and April: There will be no article
- May and June: SADES and Data Collection
- July and August: Municipal Capital Improvement Programming
- September and October: Regional Housing Needs Assessments
- November and December: Economic Resiliency Planning.

She suggested including something from each of the nine regions.

IV. 2022 Legislative Session Partner Updates

Noah Hodgetts presented updates on the various 2022 land use bills of interest He gave a summary as follows:

- HB 1307, modifying authority and duties of the House Appeals Board– Passed House
- SB 249, short-term rentals, allowing STRs everywhere –Passed S. w/Amend on Voice
- SB 400, omnibus housing bill – Supported by Governor – Passed Senate
 - requires the Office of Planning and Development (OPD) to offer training to land use board members free of charge;
 - requires municipalities to publish notice of land use fees;

- allows a court to require the posting of a bond and to award attorney's fees and costs to the prevailing party in an appeal to the superior court;
- expands the tax incrementing financing (TIF) district statute, RSA 162-K, to include acquisition of real property to construct workforce housing;
- requires land use boards to make specific written findings of fact to support their decisions; and
- creates a voluntary housing champion certification program, providing preferential access to state resources such as discretionary state infrastructure funds in exchange for achieving champion status.
- HB 1021, Land or structures for religious purposes: No zoning ordinance or site plan review regulation shall prohibit, regulate or restrict the use of land or structures for religious purposes – Passed H. on Voice
- HB 1177, Single-family lots for up to 4 residential units: Must allow as a matter of right any single-family lot in a residential zoning district served by water and sewer to be used for four residential dwelling units. - Tabled

Bills voted inexpedient to legislate included:

- HB 1216, repealing the Housing Appeals Board
- SB 244, ADUs/variances: existing nonconforming structures must be allowed to be converted to dwelling units
- HB 1068, Tiny houses: requires tiny houses to be allowed in all residential zoning districts
- HB 1087, Lot sizes: No ordinance can require more than a 10,000 square foot lot size for single family housing lots where such lots are serviced by a municipal or community water and sewer infrastructure
- HB 1098, Parking spaces per occupied dwelling: Can't require more than one parking space per dwelling
- HB 1219, Parking requirements for religious institutions: Limits the ability of planning boards to regulate parking for religious institutions

V. Discussion on Legislative outcomes

A. Legislative outcome of HB 1275

J. Czysz reported this bill was voted Inexpedient to Legislate.

B. Discussion on HB 1432

Noah Hodgetts reported this bill passed in the house and is scheduled to be voted on by the Senate,

Tim Murphy asked Noah Hodgetts, regarding the Legislative Session Partner Updates, was he speaking on behalf of OPD or the Partners Group? Noah answered that OPD does not take a position, remains completely objective, and is here simply to provide updates.

VI. NHARPC Appointments:

A. Legislative Liaison

Noah Hodgetts described the responsibilities and time commitment to be the Legislative Liaison. Mike Tardiff volunteered to represent NHARPC as Liaison to the Legislation.

Motion by Larry Robinson to appoint Mike Tardiff as the Legislative Liaison representing NHARPC, seconded by Robert Snelling. Approved by a unanimous roll call vote with Larry Robinson, Peter Griffin, James Steele, Robert Snelling, Jerry Coogan, Mike Tardiff, Jen Czysz, Bill Chasson, Tim Murphy and Carl Epoch voting in favor.

B. Geologic Resources Advisory Committee

Bill Chasson stated that he is a geologist and volunteered himself for the position. The members were all in agreement to appoint and thanked him to take the appointment.

Motion by Robert Snelling to appoint Bill Chasson as NHARPC Liaison the Geologic Resources Advisory Committee, seconded by Larry Robinson. Approved by a unanimous roll call vote with Larry Robinson, Peter Griffin, James Steele, Robert Snelling, Jerry Coogan, Mike Tardiff, Jen Czysz, Bill Chasson, Tim Murphy and Carl Epoch voting in favor.

VII. 2022 Legislative Breakfast

J. Czysz reported that the legislative breakfast has not been held in two years. It is an opportunity for RPCs to connect with legislature, showcase projects each commission has been working on and to answer questions.

Becky Baldwin reported there is \$650.00 budgeted for the event.

Tim Murphy stated the first step is to determine if the membership agrees to hold the event. The members attending were all in agreement to move forward.

T. Murphy stated the next step is to check availability for the State House cafeteria to see what they have available. T. Murphy encouraged members to contact friends in legislature; they can potentially be instrumental in helping with the scheduling and to assist with publishing the event in the house and senate calendars. Once availability is determined, staff will send out a poll to the planning commission to determine a date that is convenient for the majority.

Noah Hodgetts recommended scheduling on a Thursday as both houses are in session.

T. Murphy suggested that each planning commission nominate a project to feature for variety and diversity and to show the range of work accomplished by the regional planning commissions.

VIII. Other Matters

Noah Hodgetts reported registration is open for the OPD Annual Planning Conference. The dates are Saturday April 30 and Saturday May 7, 9a.m. -12 p.m. the conference will be virtual and is free.

IX. Next Meeting

The membership discussed the options for the next meeting and were in consensus that the legislative Breakfast could serve in lieu of the next meeting. T. Murphy suggested leaving that door open in the event something might come up that would warrant a separate meeting prior to the legislative breakfast. The leadership could decide that and then poll the membership to confirm a date.

The membership discussed the annual meeting which is held in June. The question was posed if a guest speaker would present at the annual meeting. T. Murphy answered that typically happens at the Commissioners Convening, however, a guest speaker is not an improbability. The Commissioners Convening typically occurs in the fall and features a topic presentation by a guest speaker. At the convening each RPC presents a report; it is a time to create comradery among the statewide regional planning commissions. A meal is served and there are other expenses so this is something that can be built into the budget at annual meeting. Suggestions for a topic included The Housing Needs Assessment and the Infrastructure Bill.

The annual meeting, in addition to regular business, consists of reviewing the financials, dues assessment, proposed budget and election of officers.

X. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

XI. Adjourn

Motion by Larry Robinson to adjourn, seconded by Robert Snelling. Approved by a unanimous roll call vote with Larry Robinson, Peter Griffin, James Steele, Robert Snelling, Jerry Coogan, Mike Tardiff, Jen Czysz, Bill Chasson, Tim Murphy and Carl Epoch voting unanimously in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

NHARPC
Financial Report
as of
June 30, 2022

<u>Bank Balance as of 6/30/21</u>		\$5,872.39
<u>Income:</u>		
Dues	\$9,000.00	
Interest	\$0.79	
Total Income		\$9,000.79
<u>Expense:</u>		
Staff Support	\$8,000.00	
Website/Communications Support	\$1,500.00	
Total Expenses		\$9,500.00
<u>Bank Balance as of 6/30/22</u>		\$5,373.18

NHARPC FY2023 Budget
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

<u>Income:</u>		
Bank Balance		\$5,373.18
Membership Dues		\$9,000.00
Annual Convening RPC payments		\$1,250.00
Total		\$15,623.18
<u>Expense:</u>		
Staff Support		\$8,000.00
Website/Communications Support		\$1,500.00
Conferences/Support of Affiliate Activities		\$1,500.00
Annual Convening		\$1,250.00
Legislative Breakfast		\$650.00
Incidental Expenses		\$250.00
Total		\$13,150.00