

**New Hampshire Association of Regional Planning Commissions
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 28, 2023
NH Municipal Association
John B. Andrews Room
25 Triangle Drive, Concord, NH**

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Jerry Coogan called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and asked for introductions.

Members present: Jen Czysz, SRPC; Steve Buckley, CNHRP; Jerry Coogan, UVLSRPC; Andrea Cass, UVLRPC; Sylvia Von Aulock, SNHPC; Mike Tardiff, CNHPC; Tim Murphy, SWRPC; Mike Tardiff, CNHRPC; Michelle Morin-Grey, NCRPC; Noah Hodgetts, NHOPD;

Members attending remotely: Leslie Schwartz, SRPC; Don Hamann, SRPC

2. Review and Approval of the March 22, 2023 meeting minutes

S. Buckley motioned to approve the March 22, 2023, meeting minutes as written. T. Murphy seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.

3. Final review of the 2023 Legislative Session

Noah Hodgetts highlighted selected bills from the 2023 legislative session. He stated that many bills were passed by both parties.

The group engaged in discussion on several items. S. Von Aulock asked does it make sense to continue to provide representation on the special commission for housing since it is an unpaid service. J. Czysz added it is challenging on a billable basis. M. Tardiff stated RPC representation is needed; we do find funding.

The group congratulated Noah Hodgetts as the recipient of Planner of the Year Award.

4. NHARPC-NHMA Partnership

A. Town & City Articles and Webinars

J. Czysz outlined the upcoming articles:

The July/August edition has been completed with Solid/Household Hazardous Waste as the topic.

The September/October article -Climate-building resilience against immediate threats and recovery-is due August 1. RPC, SWRPC, UVLSRPC will be collaborating on this piece. The committee will discuss the 2024 line up of Town and City articles at their September meeting.

B. Session proposals for the NHMA Annual Meeting

CNHRPC and SNHPC will be submitting a session to the NHMA Annual Conference featuring the RHNA's and next steps; what can, and should Municipalities do, what have we learned? Each RPC will provide snippets from each region and look for surprising facts. Sylvia will take the lead.

5. Recap of the May 24 Commissioners Convening

Guests submitted a lot of positive feedback. They were pleased with the speakers, the RPC presentation, and the food. Suggestions for next year's convening included assigning seats so representation for each region is spread out. The members agreed that June is a busy month and to consider fall of 2024 for the next convening. Topics to consider are water/sewer infrastructure, transportation, homelessness, pedestrian safety, and roundabouts pros and cons.

6. Priorities for fiscal year 2024

A. Establishment of a NH legislative planning caucus

The group discussed the concerns of forming a planning caucus. All agreed that the RPC by laws prevent the NHARPCs from spending funds on an activity such as this as it could be considered lobbying. Ideas included combining housing and planning into a single legislative caucus. The conversation may continue.

B. Funding for Regional Planning Commissions

Some state senators have discussed proposing a bill to look at better funding for RPC's. It is encouraging that RPC's are being recognized and have support in the senate.

C. Other

The members discussed the issue of vacancies in planning boards and the need for diversity. There are also numerous vacancies in planner positions throughout the region.

A. FY 2023 Financial Report

J. Czysz summarized the financial reports for the end of FY23. S. Von Aulock motioned to accept the FY23 financial report as presented. S. Buckley seconded the motion. All members voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

B. FY 2024 Budget

J. Czysz discussed the FY24 budget and stated that there are no real changes from FY23. S. Buckley motioned to accept the FY24 budget as presented. T. Murphy seconded the motion. All members voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

C. Annual Dues Assessment

After a brief discussion, S. Von Aulock motioned to keep the dues at \$1000.00 per RPC. T. Murphy seconded the motion. All members voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

D. Contracts for Services

- **Administrative Support**
- **Website/Communications**

S. Buckley motioned to renew the contracts for SRPC to continue administrative support for \$8,000.00 per year and CNHRPC to continue website/communications for \$1,500.00 per year. S. Von Aulock seconded the motion. All members voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

E. Election of Officers

With a motion by S. Buckley and a second by A. Von Aulock and a unanimous vote in favor, the current slate of officers were elected to serve for another year:

- a. Jerry Coogan, UVLSRPC Commissioner, Chair
- b. Peter Griffin, SNHPC Commissioner, Vice Chair
- c. Don Hamann, SRPC Commissioner, Treasurer

7. Other Matters: None discussed.

8. Next Meeting: Next meeting is September 27, 2023, 1-3 PM, at NH Municipal Association.

9. Public Comment: No public present

10. Adjourn

At 2:50 P.M. S. Buckley motioned to adjourn seconded by S. Von Aulock. All in favor, meeting adjourned.