

# LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

103 Main Street, Suite #3  
Meredith, NH 03253  
Tel 603.279.8171  
www.lakesrpc.org



## LRPC Executive Board Meeting

Minutes of March 9, 2022

Approved on April 13, 2022

PRESENT John Ayer (Chair), Dean Anson, Mardean Badger, Bill Bolton, Pat Farley, Steve Favorite, David Kerr, Robert Snelling, Steve Wingate

ABSENT Tony Giunta, David Katz, Jean Marshall

STAFF Jeff Hayes (Executive Director), Linda Waldron (Administrative Assistant)

PUBLIC None

LOCATION LRPC Office, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Meredith

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### 1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order.

### 2. Minutes of December 8, 2021

Unavailable

### 3. Finance Report

Jeff presented the finance report. The annual meeting budget was briefly discussed. Sponsorship status update was given – we have a gold sponsor and two bronze sponsors at this point. Jeff spoke about the newly revised regional map we have printed and have been sending with our sponsorship mailings. Discussion was had of possibly providing a copy to each of the towns. It was mentioned that it could be framed, laminated, or some such for hanging purposes. Everyone seemed to like the idea. Pat asked if maybe we could also supply a PDF version of the map. An update was provided regarding the purchase of our new server and, although costly, it was well-timed as just as we were transitioning over to the new server, our old one failed. We are also in the process of purchase a new laptop and a new desktop. Housing needs assessment with RPCs was extensively discussed. Pros & cons regarding our involvement was a major factor. There is a survey in place to assess the public's input. Emails were also sent to the towns. Pat suggested that we might want to send a secondary email due to the fact that with the elections and possible change in personnel, the first mailing might be overlooked. Finally, termination of regional impact from Effingham stemming from the gas station issue was discussed with the board. Our only involvement should be with the site plan.

### 4. Monthly Executive Report

None.

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## 5. Committee Reports

### A. TAC (Jeff & Steve)

Re-elected chair; new vice-chair. Approved 4 sets of minutes. Updated rules. Bike/pedestrian plan discussed.

10-year transportation planning process is restarting. Another 2 year cycle of project identification and funding. Towns are encouraged to submit project applications ASAP. LRPC will have some on-call engineering funds to help towns with project estimation which may require a match from the community.

### B. Nominating Committee Update (John)

Need to get updates on who would like to continue to serve.

## 6. Old Business – Annual Meeting

Lengthy discussion regarding the annual meeting. Jeff provided an update as to the current budget. Information and costs obtained to date were provided. John asked about obtaining a building permit for the tent given the size. We will need to investigate whether this is necessary either through the country club or through the city. Discussion was had regarding the ticket cost. It was agreed upon that \$50.00 is reasonable given the current times, price increases, and the cost to rent the tent. Raffles for 2 or 3 big ticket items were discussed – possibly a round of golf from the country club could be donated. Tote bag with thank you gifts was briefly discussed. The feasibility/possibility of a tour of the water park was mentioned. How many free or comped meals are we looking at? Should we invite some dignitaries and have them read a prewritten letter? Should we obtain a videographer? What does the guest speaker need for his presentation; do we need to obtain anything for this? Nomination forms and awards were also discussed along with the new Ayers-Cotton Award.

## 7. New Business

Hazard mitigation project issues/losses. We are consistently losing money doing these. We can't increase the cost as it is set by HESM and we are contracted by them.

Options: (1) Jeff recommended that we discontinue this generally, but review for special exceptions if a town has no other source and is willing to pay the difference between what we are reimbursed and what it costs us. We can provide a quote to the town at the time of the request. (2) We can seek an outside service and provide a referral as these requests come into us. (3) Subsidize our losses out of town dues.

There was a consensus from the board to follow this approach.

## 8. Staffing Updates

A. **Top Priority.** Land Use Planner—We have been unable to find a replacement for our land use planner. Susan had graciously agreed to stay on an additional 6 months past her announced retirement, but that extension is expected to end in the Fall. Possible plan is to hire a full time senior transportation planner to act as principal planner and handle land use needs with part time contractors.

B. Administrative Assistant—We are looking to have one full time administrative assistant with one possible part time assistant.

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C. Interns—We are looking to have 2 summer interns.

Bob mentioned looking into AmeriCorps for interns. Holderness has been successful in utilizing their services and the town has been able to provide reduced housing for the employees. Also check with Squam Lakes Association.

## 9. Roundtable

B. Bolton, Plymouth—Bill advised that he was re-elected as Selectboard Member at last night's elections. The town report was noted to contain many errors. Plymouth has hired a full time Assistant Planning Director /Land Use Tech.

R. Snelling, Holderness—Bob was proud to announce that one of his photographs were featured on the cover of the town's annual report. Bob mentioned that there was an amendment on the ballot regarding solar restriction issues, but he was not sure if it passed or not. He stated that restrictions were regarding what type of category the structure would fall under, limitations, placement, safety, and setbacks. There was also an issue as to whether a 100-acre solar farm should be allowed or whether they should be restricted to smaller acreage and what limitations should be placed on locations.

M. Badger, Ashland—A deliberative session was held last month, voting was held last night. The library has been trying to purchase a piece of property on the historic register and the purchase has now passed. A \$400,000 gift has been given to facilitate this acquisition.

S. Wingate, Tuftonboro—A proposal for a bond to raise funds to finance a new police station failed, but the current budget passed. The development of land on Route 109 is in the works. There are now 2 parties interested in this site. Proposed are workforce housing units together with luxury units. There are issues regarding the number of units to be allowed on the property.

D. Kerr, Barnstead—Part 1 of town meetings for elections were held last night, nothing was contested. David has been re-elected. On the ballot is a question as to storage of personal RVs on property and whether to limit this. David mentioned that some people are living in them while they are on the property raising sanitation and other concerns. He is unsure of how this question fared. There is a 17-unit development in the works. The town is seeking exaction from the developer to improve the dirt road it is on. There is also a proposal regarding the noise ordinance up for vote at the town meeting.

S. Favorite, Bristol—Elections were yesterday. There is a proposal to build a combined fire department and police department building which goes to the voters on Saturday. Steve mentioned the solar field near the Pemi River to accommodate the waste treatment plant and town electrical consumption. There are two air B&B matters up for Saturday's discussion; neither of them allows children. Fuel cost concerns were discussed.

P. Farley, Tamworth—Pat mentions that the Entering Tamworth sign is missing. Town meeting tonight. Discussed the transfer station's request to invest money to improve the transfer station. There are 2 new selectmen. The planning board kept the chair and alternate; 2 others did not win.

D. Anson, Laconia—The Conservation Committee is looking into the flooding potential areas in the city and working with an Antioch student to construct a model for this. This is being conducted remotely with the use of GPS. This project is fully funded. Krista Larson of the DPW has interns designing a storm water system for Union Avenue to deal with wetlands overflow drainage into Paugus Bay.

J. Ayer, Gilford—John spoke about a short-term rental ordinance in the works, but there are currently too many issues with it so it has been tabled for the time being. The town ordinance regarding noise was amended and has passed. Quiet time is now 8PM. Keno has been voted down. There will be a new flag for Gilford. There will be a Michael's store coming to

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the Wal-Mart plaza. There is a possible purchase in the works for the former strip club property in Gilford. There have been multiple variance appeals regarding lake water construction (some approved, some not). The new building inspector has just gotten started. He is finding it challenging, but is moving forward.

## 10. **Adjourn**

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda Waldron, Meeting Recorder*