

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 April 12, 2023

Approved May 10, 2023

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| PRESENT | Dean Anson, II - <i>virtually</i> , Cristina Ashjian, John Ayer (Chair), Bill Bolton, Patricia Farley (Secretary), Mark Hildebrand, David Katz (Vice Chair) - <i>virtually</i> , David Kerr (Treasurer), Bob Snelling |
| ABSENT | Mardean Badger, Steve Wingate |
| STAFF | Jeff Hayes (Executive Director), Linda Waldron (Administrative Assistant) |
| LOCATION | LRPC Office, 1 st Floor Conference Room, Meredith |

1. Call to Order

Chair Ayer welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. It was announced that Vice Chair David Katz and Dean Anson were attending remotely. An in-person quorum was established.

2. Minutes

Minutes of March's Executive Board meeting were acknowledged for comments and discussion. Cristina Ashjian requested a couple of changes be made regarding her roundtable contribution which were noted. Following this, Bob Snelling made a motion to accept the minutes with modifications which was seconded by Secretary Farley. A voice vote was taken in which all members present were in favor and a roll call vote was taken from Vice Chair Katz and Dean Anson, both signifying their assent. Motion passed.

3. Finance/Treasurer Report

Executive Director Hayes stated that we have recovered quite a bit from our deficit of the past couple of months; however, we may fall back again for the next month or two due to the timing in billing of some quarterly contracts. We are expected to break even by the end of the fiscal year. It was also stated that our contract with Lakes Region Computers will be increasing significantly due to strengthening cyber security measures. We also have plans to switch to a .gov domain name for added security.

4. Monthly Executive Report (March)

Executive Director Hayes provided a brief review of this report. There were some questions and discussions on various items.

5. Committee Reports (TAC)

Executive Director Hayes went over the ranking process for the TYP projects and explained why it was amended from the initial ranking to the recommendation submitted to the DOT.

There was discussion regarding how to improve TAC membership participation. A suggestion was made to initiate a survey whereby members could submit topics they would like further information on and to possibly schedule more presentations. Additional discussion ensued regarding attendance implications similar to that of the Commissioners whereby a letter is sent out notifying the Board of Selectmen after 3 consecutive unexcused absences.

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Bill Bolton made a motion to amend the TAC Standing Rules & Procedures to include sending a notification letter to towns when a member has 3 consecutive unexcused absences which was seconded by Secretary Farley. A voice vote was taken in which all members present were in favor and a roll call vote was taken from Vice Chair Katz and Dean Anson, both signifying their assent. Motion passed. It was also decided that a letter should go out to all TAC members advising them of this change.

Treasurer Kerr noted that the newly appointed Chair of the TAC is accelerating his retirement such that April was both his first and last meeting. He also commented on how electric vehicles seem to be the current hot topic and most of April's meeting was regarding same, especially concerning charging stations and costs.

6. Old Business

- a. Resignations/Open Board Positions. Executive Director Hayes reminded members that Chair Ayer is permitted to appoint temporary replacements through the next election. It was decided that this needs further discussion, so no action was taken at this time.
- b. By-Law Changes. Executive Director Hayes advised that the proposed changes have to do with clarifications, the most important of which is clarifying that the nominating committee is responsible for nominating officers to the Executive Board and that those nominations shall come from the Executive Board membership. After discussion, the suggested verbiage was refined slightly, and Cristina Ashjian offered a motion that we accept the changes as discussed which was seconded by Secretary Farley. A voice vote was taken in which all members present were in favor and a roll call vote was taken from Vice Chair Katz and Dean Anson, both signifying their assent. Motion passed.
- c. TYP Submission to DOT. This was addressed as part of #5 above.
- d. Annual Meeting Updates. Executive Director Hayes provided an update noting that our keynote speakers will include a panel consisting of participants from Revision Energy and Clean Energy NH. The venue this year will be Mills Falls at Church Landing. He also mentioned that a request for nominations for our 3 award categories went out this week.
- e. Potential Adoption Vote of RHNA Report. A discussion was had regarding whether we are ready to recommend to the full commission to adopt the RHNA report as drafted. Executive Director Hayes is not certain we want to actually recommend an adoption and a question was raised as to adopting versus accepting and the implications of each. It was decided that we should recommend *acceptance* rather than *adoption* and further discussion should be had at the next Commissioner meeting in this regard.
- f. Membership Logo Design. After a brief discussion, Chair Ayer announced that he is withdrawing his recommendation to implement this idea.

7. New Business

- a. Draft FY24 Budget. Executive Director Hayes went over this in detail. There was some discussion in a couple of areas, but overall everyone was satisfied. Bob Snelling made a motion to recommend the budget be presented to the full commission for vote at its first meeting after the Annual Meeting (which will be September 2023). This motion was seconded by Mark Hildebrand. A voice vote was taken in which all

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members present were in favor and a roll call vote was taken from Vice Chair Katz and Dean Anson, both signifying their assent. Motion passed.

8. Roundtable

C. Ashjian, Moultonborough—Moultonborough is heading into its Town Meeting. They have had their first budget and warrant hearings. The selectboard had a meeting wherein they have decided not to put *The HUB* community center proposal on the Town warrant, but it will go in as a petition warrant article. Several offices are contested this year and a candidate's night has been scheduled. The Zoning Board granted a special exception application regarding the bulk fuel facility proposal on Route 25.

M. Hildebrand, Center Harbor—Moultonborough has approved a smaller version of the town line development. There will now be 21 buildings with 2 units each. Resident abutters have already appealed it. There will be a selectmen's meeting in a couple of weeks on this and Cristine Ashjian advises it is also on the agenda for Moultonborough's next ZBA meeting.

P. Farley, Tamworth—There was an economic development meeting last night and they are making further plans for two forums: 1) how to pass local property on to children or others and 2) to provide an update on the previous broadband forum. The selectmen have decided to install an electric charging station in the center of town. Additionally, Pat advises that an Economic Development Commission board member is willing to donate land to establish a community garden.

B. Bolton, Plymouth—Bill is the Executive Director of Transport Central – a local non-profit transportation service – and mentions that PSU is looking to take advantage of approximately \$11 million in earmark money to purchase electric transportation vehicles, charging stations, and install solar arrays. Several years ago, Transport Central had a regional bus service map made which included the North Country Council as well as the Lakes Region. Bill is able to secure additional money through the North Country Council and Tri-County CAP to be used for planning and implementation.

D. Anson, Laconia—The Belknap County Conservation Commission manages the state-owned land across from the old State School property which is being used for community gardens and they are willing to assist any other municipalities that may be interested in setting one up. He indicates that Sycamore Community Garden in Concord is also a good resource in these regards. Dean reminds us that the Conservation Commission is working on three projects concerning run off issues from Black Brook Road in Sanbornton, Deer Park Association in Meredith, and Gale Avenue in Laconia utilizing 319 grant funds with each town putting in a 40% match. FB Environmental recently completed their evaluation of the Langley Brook watershed and they will be making a public presentation to the Conservation Commission on May 17th. Finally, it is noted that the cancer support organization Gilda's Club has changed their name to Lakes Region Cancer Support Team and it is located at the Busiel Mill.

D. Katz, New Hampton—All warrants passed at the town meeting. Of note was the approval of continued funding for the RSMS, approval for updating the FEMA flood plain ordinance, and approval of a heritage fund to further the preservation of their Town House.

R. Snelling, Holderness—They had their town meeting, nothing significant to report.

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D. Kerr, Barnstead—The voters approved the purchase of a \$1 million ladder and pumper truck at their town meeting. There was a very well attended and contentious Planning Board meeting regarding an Air BnB site plan application and the applicant's unawareness of a homeowners' association. There is also a long-standing subdivision application which has finally been resolved by approving it as a major subdivision with 3 lots.

J. Ayer, Gilford—Their short term rental ordinance was approved a couple of weeks ago and it will go into effect on July 1st. They have already received 2 or 3 applications, but still need to determine the requirements and fees. John recently attended the 2023 National Planning Conference in Philadelphia where parking requirements was a significant topic.

9. **Adjournment**

Chair Ayer adjourned the meeting at 11:33 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Waldron
Administrative Assistant