

Draft MEETING NOTES
Lakes Region Plan Advisory Committee (LRPAC)
4th Committee Meeting

LRPC, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Meredith, New Hampshire
Wednesday January 22, 2014 at 9:00 AM

Committee Members

Jean Marshall LRPC Commissioner, Town of Freedom
Warren HutchinsLRPC Commissioner, City of Laconia
David Kerr LRPC Commissioner, Town of Barnstead
Steve Wingate LRPC Commissioner, Town of Tuftonboro
John Cotton LRPC Commissioner, Town of Andover
Robert SnellingLRPC Commissioner, Town of Holderness

LRPC staff

Jeff Hayes, Executive Director Lakes Region Planning Commission
Gerald Coogan, Special Projects Manager..... Lakes Region Planning Commission
Dari Sassan, Regional Planner Lakes Region Planning Commission
Michael Izard, Principal Planner Lakes Region Planning Commission

Guest

Annette Nielsen ...Economist, Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau, NH ES

CALL TO ORDER

Introductions

J. Marshall called the 4th meeting of the LRPAC to order at approximately 9:05 AM and welcomed everyone. Attendees introduced themselves by name and affiliation. Moved by D. Kerr and seconded by S. Wingate to accept the minutes of November 20, 2014.

Proposed Lakes Region Plan ProcessJ. Coogan

Timeline: G. Coogan reviewed the Lakes Region Plan timeline dated January 16, 2014. Key dates are:

- June 30, 2014 (submittal of the draft Lakes Region Plan to NRPC); and
- November 24, 2014 (LRPC Commissioners to consider adoption of the Lakes Region Plan). NRPC is the HUD grantee and the LRPC and the other eight RPCs are sub grantees to the NRPC.

G. Coogan reviewed the status of the various Plan Components. The Committee discussed and reviewed:

- “Telling the Story” and credibility of potential interviewees;
- Renewable Energy and “view sheds”;
- Energy generation and distribution;
- Wind tower and natural resources and the relevant state policy; and
- Plan adoption

As chapters are completed, the staff will forward the individual chapter to the LRPAC for their review and comment. At present, the Vision section and Economic Development Chapter are complete; Transportation Chapter will be complete around February 10th. R. Snelling encouraged the municipalities to review the draft chapters. W. Hutchins suggested e-mailing the plan documents to the municipalities.

G. Coogan stated the staff has about three months to complete much of the plan writing.

Review Draft Transportation ChapterM. Izard and *Group*

M. Izard reviewed the draft Transportation and members provided several technical comments which Michael noted. There was discussion regarding the role of the TAC, inadequate state and federal funding, declining match for public transit, the WOW trail, potential rail improvements in eastern NH, rural road standards and cultural amenities such as the covered bridge in Ossipee and restaurant at the old railroad station in Center Ossipee. R. Snelling and other noted that the Transportation Plan is an excellent example of “bottom ups” planning process, which should be a model for the other chapters. M. Izard noted the NH DOT treats the non-metro or rural RPCs and the metro RPCs alike when it comes acceptance of recommendations.

J. Hayes mentioned the **Implementation & Strategy** component and the need to include infrastructure projects in the Transportation Plan. All plan components should include an implementation section. Members present expressed their satisfaction with the draft.

Scenario planningJ. Coogan and *Group*

J. Coogan stated the scenario planning effort is an exercise which can inform decisions regarding land use and economic development. The exercise involves two components: the REMI model and Community Viz. Guest A. Neilsen described the REMI process, which incorporates two policies embraced by the Belknap County Economic Council (BEDC): Advanced Manufacturing and Entrepreneurship. She will provide a draft in the next few weeks. REMI involves economic data only and does not include land use information.

Community VIZ will assist with two scenarios: 1) projected population growth using the recent NH OEP population projections and 2) OEP population projections with a 25% increase. Community VIZ includes land use information.

Review proposed Environmental Outline and ChapterD. Sassan and Group

D. Sassan reviewed the Environmental Outline and Chapter and expects to submit a draft planning document to the LRPAC by mid to late February. He also reviewed the agenda for the Environmental Workshop scheduled for January 31st. The purpose of the workshop is to inform the Environmental Chapter by identifying potential projects, their priorities and an implementation strategy.

Public CommentNo comment

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wed March 26, 2014 at 9 AM.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.