

Draft MEETING NOTES
Lakes Region Plan Advisory Committee (LRPAC)
3rd Committee Meeting

LRPC, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Meredith, New Hampshire
Wednesday November 20, 2013 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

LRPC staff

Kimon Koulet, 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
David Jeffers, Regional Planner Lakes Region Planning Commission

Guest

Rosemary Landry.....Meredith resident

CALL TO ORDER

Introductions

J. Marshall called the 3rd meeting of the LRPAC to order at approximately 9:05 AM and welcomed everyone. Attendees introduced themselves by name and affiliation. Steve Wingate requested the September 25, 2013 minutes reflect that he represents the Town of Tuftonboro. Moved by D. Kerr and seconded by S. Wingate to accept the minutes of September 25, 2013 with the noted change.

Proposed Lakes Region Plan ProcessJ. Coogan

Timeline: G. Coogan referred to the Lakes Region Plan timeline and noted the key dates being June 30, 2014 (submittal of the draft Lakes Region Plan to NRPC) and November 24, 2014 (LRPC Commissioners adopt the Lakes Region). NRPC is the HUD grantee and the LRPC and the other eight RPCs are sub grantees to the NRPC. G. Coogan mentioned that while the staff is generally on schedule with completing the various chapters, there are some delays due to information needed from the NH HFA (Housing) and the planning and

organization with the November 15th Transportation workshop. K. Koulet cautioned all to adhere to schedule with drafts available for acceptance on the scheduled date. J. Marshall requested that documents be sent out as they become available and at least two weeks in advance of a meeting. There was a discussion regarding receipt of documents via e-mail; all later concurred they received the attachments. Members prefer to receive large plan documents by U.S. mail.

Information on GSF website: Meeting notices, agenda minutes and planning documents can be seen online at Granite State Future Web Site: <http://granitestatefuture.org/>. Note this website should not be confused with Granite State Futures website.

Discussion on public relations strategy: W. Hutchins suggested LRPC should be positive and proactive by sending out regular press releases with a copy to the LRPAC members. He also suggested sending updated information to Boards of Selectmen and Planning Boards.

Review Interim Draft Housing ChapterGroup

G. Coogan reviewed the Interim Draft Housing Chapter and provided the following highlights:

1. Definitions: Noted distinction between “Affordable Housing” and “Workforce Housing” (WFH)
2. Demo / Socioeconomic Trends
 - 5.9% growth 2000 – 2010; NH OEP population projections call for much slower growth;
 - Figure 3.2 – change from younger to older cohorts
 - Average Household size: 2.9 to 1.9
 - Unemployment rate --- going down
 - Older communities --- Wolfeboro, Hebron and Holderness --- younger – Barnstead, Hill and Northfield
 - Non-white
3. Discussion on groups in need such as poverty, persons w/ disabilities, low income housing, refugees, veterans and homeless
4. Segregation and Concentration of Poverty: Five factors ---
 - % Non – white population 3.2%
 - % Households w/ no vehicles 1.67%
 - Population 75% and over 8.06%
 - % Single parent households 9.5%
 - % of persons below the poverty level 9.61%

The index identified Laconia, Bristol, Franklin, Ashland, Ossipee and Tilton with diversity and economic characteristics.

5. HUD data on Race / Ethnic Segregation – very little evidence of this.
6. Housing information: residential Permits --- 20 years ago at 600 to 1,200 permits per year and now down to 200 permits per year since 2009; Housing Types: SF by 85%; House Prices – peaked at \$215,000 in 2005 – 06, down to \$165,000 in 2011 now up to \$170,000; Housing Rents: yearly increases from \$600 in 2001 to \$920 in 2013 – 53% increase; Housing Production – statewide and Lakes Region
7. Affordable and Equitable Housing Opportunities – Contact w/ NHLA, NH Commission on Human Rights and HUD Office of Fair Housing shows very discrimination. Important issues include zoning, land use controls, SNOB Zones --- Fair Housing Issues

W. Hutchins mentioned a press release on affordable housing and WFH and the distinction. J. Marshall mentioned the continued decline in school enrollment in Freedom. W. Hutchins suggested we share this information with the Planning Directors and inquired how the LRPC will disseminate the information after July 1st. K. Koulet responded the LRPAC can assist in “selling” the Lakes Region Plan to member communities and the LRPC Commissioners.

Review status of Transportation ChapterGroup

M. Izard noted the auto dependent nature of transportation in the Lakes Region. Discussion on park n’ rides. M. Izard noted that work on the November 15th Transportation workshop took time away from work on the Transportation Chapter. J. Marshall mentioned the connection eastern NH has with North Conway and the Mt. Washington Valley. M. Izard noted that 25% of the population does not have access to an automobile and many young people prefer not to own an automobile.

M. Izard noted the TAC will review the draft Transportation Chapter on January 8, 2014 and send it to the LRPAC for further review. M. Izard and the LRPAC discussed the Transportation workshop and considered it to be a successful and educational event that will inform the Chapter.

Review proposed Chapter outlinesGroup

Water Infrastructure Chapter: D. Sassan suggested there be one workshop for the Environment / Water Quality / Energy Efficiency & Green Building on January 24, 2014 (tentative). All were in agreement. He noted this chapter will cover wastewater, water supply, stormwater management and land conservation. S. Wingate noted that water impacts everything that LRPC does and its interconnectivity with housing, transportation, economic development and other topics. D. Kerr noted the topic of “water” in Barnstead can be a controversial issue invoking property right issues.

Energy Efficiency and Green Building: D. Sassan reviewed the outline and started a discussion on energy efficiency and renewable energy such as wood pellets. W. Hutchins suggested the LRCC be the venue for the discussion of this chapter.

Natural Hazards & Climate Change: D. Jeffers reviewed the outline and discussed climate change's impact on weather, the types of hazards experienced in the Lakes Region (flooding mostly), mitigation techniques and the role of FEMA. W. Hutchins suggested contact with the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Association as they have expertise in natural disasters. D. Jeffers mentioned late February as a target date for Natural Hazard and Climate Change workshop.

Public Comment

No comment

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wed January 22, 2014 at 9 AM. Snow date will be January 29th.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.