



CNHRPC Full Commission Meeting
APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 8, 2020
7:00pm
Zoom Meeting

Commission Attendees: Michael O'Meara, Town of Allenstown
Fred Reagan, Town of Boscawen
Harry Wright, Town of Bradford
Jim Bibbo, Town of Bradford
Tyson Miller, Town of Canterbury
Stan Brehm, Town of Chichester
Erle Pierce, City of Concord
Meredith Hatfield, City of Concord
Matthew Hicks, City of Concord
Keith Johnson, Town of Deering
Betsy Bosiak, Town of Epsom
Scott Osgood, Town of Henniker
Gary Sparks, Town of Hillsborough
Susanne White, Town of Hillsborough
Clarke Kidder, Town of Hopkinton
Kathy Cruson, Town of Pembroke
Joe Schmidl, Town of Salisbury
Ben Inman, Town of Warner
Ken Milender, Town of Warner

CNHRPC Staff: Michael Tardiff, Executive Director
Matt Monahan, Senior Planner
Craig Tufts, Principal GIS/Transportation Planner
Dean Williams, Principal Transportation Planner
Stephanie Alexander, Senior Planner

The meeting began at 7:05 PM, called to order by CNHRPC Chair, Matt Hicks (Concord). Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, Matt Hicks read the following statement that authorizes the CNHRPC Full Commission to meet electronically: Due to the State of Emergency declared by Governor Sununu, and in response to Emergency Orders #12 and #23 of Executive Order 2020-04, the Central NH Regional Planning Commission is authorized to meet electronically. There is no physical location in which to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting. We will be utilizing Zoom.us for an electronic meeting. All CNHRPC Commissioners have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting; the public has access to listen contemporaneously and if necessary, to participate in this meeting. Dial phone number 301-

715-8592, Meeting ID: 852 4618 4307, Password: 468321 or go to the following website address: <https://zoom.us> click "Join a Meeting" and enter Meeting ID: 852 4618 4307, Password: 468321. If you are not able to access the meeting by calling the number provided above, please call 603-226-6020. In the event the public is unable to access the meeting by phone, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled."

Presentation: Reagan Bissonnette, Executive Director, Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA) – Recycling, Solid Waste and Composting in New Hampshire

Michael Tardiff introduced Reagan Bissonnette, Executive Director of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association. He noted that the issue of recycling and solid waste had been a recent topic in several local master plan community facility chapter updates, and CNHRPC staff had been fielding more calls related to the topic in recent months. Ms. Bissonnette noted that many of the CNHRPC communities were also members of the NRRRA, and there are over 400 members with most in New Hampshire and Vermont. The goal of the NRRRA is to enable communities to manage their own recycling programs. NRRRA helps by serving as a cooperative marketing and purchasing broker to recycle aluminum cans, glass, fibers, scrap metal, electronics, hazardous household waste, and municipal solid waste to return revenue back to communities. NRRRA also provides educational programs to solid waste operators, annual conference, maintains an online resource library and provides technical assistance to members such as site visits and working with schools.

Reagan provided a history on China's National Sword Program in 2018 which put in place new restrictions on accepting recyclable materials. She noted the main issue was single stream recycling, as it is very costly to separate material types. More than half of Northeast's recyclable volume is mixed paper-fiber (56%), followed by glass (14%). Once the global purchaser of mixed paper stopped purchasing, the world market dropped substantially in value. A positive result of the market stop is a domestic investment in paper mills that use recycled fibers. Local impacts will be felt depending on whether single stream, dual stream (mixed fiber is kept separate from glass, plastics, and metals) or separate stream recycling is done. Higher tipping fees, contamination, burning and landfilling of recyclables are the result. Some towns are reverting to source material separation to avoid the higher fees, but impacts are still felt because of the world market.

An example of the cost differences per ton (profit) from June 2020, is mixed paper costs per ton were low (\$-3 to \$15/ton) versus sorted office paper costs were much higher (\$123 - \$150/ton). Uncolored plastic #2 (milk jugs, soda bottles) bring the highest cost (\$540-\$750/ton). Glass markets were not severely affected by China's National Sword Program, but the markets were previously poor. One program sends the glass to Canada for cleaning and crushing, after which it is returned as raw material to make insulation in the United States. Processed aggregate glass can be used for local subbase for road and infrastructure.

Trash and composting were then highlighted. Half of all trash disposed of in New Hampshire comes from out of state in the six available landfills. Food waste is the largest component of municipal waste, a very heavy and expensive material which contributes to greenhouse gases when put in landfills. Composting is complicated and meat and dairy should be separated. More information and resources regarding composting are available on the NRRRA website.

Recycling during COVID-19 has been more difficult, but there is little risk of contracting virus from recyclables. NRRRA provided information and a recorded webinar on their website.

Reagan held a question-and-answer session with Full Commission members.

Introductions

Introductions were skipped as a formal roll call was conducted as part of the next agenda item, approval of minutes.

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion by Erle Pierce and a second by Fred Reagan, the minutes of the June 11, 2020 Full Commission meeting were approved unanimously by roll call vote. Susanne White abstained from the vote.

Report of the Chair

Matt Hicks expressed his thanks for the work done on the Concord Trails Plan by Craig Tufts and Stephanie Alexander. He also gave kudos to all CNHRPC staff for performing work duties remotely, having one person in the office daily, during these challenging times.

Treasurer's Report

Regarding the Treasurer's Report, Mike Tardiff noted that the budget after July is often in negative territory. This summer was stronger than typical, even including the costs associated with the long-awaited investment in computers and the server to increase worker capability. Mike reported on circuit riding activities, development reviews, master plans, natural resource inventories, economic development activities, trails planning, hazard mitigation plans, energy plans, and transportation work that has been undertaken. Contracts with local communities continued. Staff working remotely continues to work well, and the staff has been as busy as ever. Financially, the Commission is on the right track for this fiscal year.

New Hampshire Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan Update

Mike Tardiff introduced the next cycle of the State Ten-Year Plan (TYP), a strong process in New Hampshire which adds projects into the cycle from all regional planning commissions. He added that Dean Williams would review the project solicitation process, the projects that have been submitted to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), and next steps to bring the project into April, when projects are prioritized and brought to the Full Commission for consideration of approval.

Dean noted that a solicitation was sent to Planning Boards and Boards of Selectmen in August for new projects to be considered for the 2023-2032 State Ten-Year Plan Update. Staff have been working with many communities about potential projects, some of which were redirected to other grant programs. Six eligible projects proposals were received: Allenstown Main Street Improvements, Chichester NH 28/ Kelley Corner/ Webster Mills Road Intersection Improvements, Dunbarton Pages Corner, Hillsborough NH 9/ NH 31 Intersection Improvements, Hopkinton I-89 Exit 4/ US 202 Intersection Improvements, and Salisbury Crossroad Improvements. Projects in Dunbarton, Hopkinton and Salisbury have been proposed during previous TYP updates but have not been included in an approved TYP. Staff worked with NHDOT and other planning commissions to develop a universal project proposal form and universal criteria to evaluate projects. Dean reviewed the project criteria that will be applied to each project by CNHRPC staff, who will evaluate the projects based on criteria within their areas of expertise. Recommended scores will be reviewed by the TAC Subcommittee, who will recommend preliminary scores for the TAC to review. Preliminary project scoring will be provided to NHDOT during the winter. Dean continued to review the timeline for the remainder of the Ten-Year Plan update through June 2022 when legislative approval of the 2023-2030 Plan should be obtained. There is still opportunity for public input for evaluating the projects. It is anticipated that 1 or 2 of the region's projects will be included in the last 2 years of the 2023-2032 TYP while the remaining projects will seek other funding sources or be considered again during the next TYP update in 2 years.

Mike Tardiff noted that projects that have undergone this process in previous cycles, like the Boscawen King Street improvements, will soon begin its engineering phase. He added that it is important for communities to send in potential projects to start their evaluation and get them into the process, even if they are not added to the Ten-Year Plan the first time around.

Scott Osgood, Henniker, asked about the status of NH 9 intersection improvements in Hopkinton/Henniker at the Dunkin Donuts. Mike said that funding has been obligated and the Preliminary Engineering phase has begun. Other regional projects in the Ten-Year Plan have advanced into the Preliminary Engineering phase, such as I-89 Exit 2 in Concord and NH 28/Main Street in Chichester.

CNHRPC Staff Updates

Craig Tufts – Staff are beginning to work on a Natural Resources Inventory for Loudon after completing one for Boscawen. Staff will follow the same process and inventory drinking water, agriculture, wildlife, and many other resources. The mapping layers are overlaid and given a weight as indicated from local survey results. In Webster, he provided a 100' buffer map and other maps for a new wetlands ordinance to determine potential impacts. The Concord Trails Plan is also ongoing.

Stephanie Alexander - Involved in long-term planning projects, including hazard mitigation plans every five years. Undertook that process remotely with Allenstown and had impressive public participation. Included this year is the Deering Hazard Mitigation Plan update, which will begin soon. Staff wrote a grant for two off-cycle hazard mitigation plans in Pembroke and Hillsborough that would not have been otherwise funded this year. The Salisbury and Sutton Emergency Operations Plans were recently completed through remote meetings. She reported working with Boscawen to update their existing Master Plan Energy Chapter and applying some of that information to a new Renewable Energy Systems Ordinance that combines wind, solar, and wood energy. She helps towns with technical assistance and partners with other staff on various projects.

Matt Monahan – Reported working on the third round of the EPA Brownfields grant, remarking that this time, the application can combine petroleum and hazardous materials to a maximum of \$300,000. He worked on Epsom regulation revisions, as well as development reviews in Deering, Warner, and for Allenstown's China Mill Complex rental housing and an assisted living facility on Chester Turnpike. He organized a Technical Review Committee in Chichester and provided help to Deering to update their Watershed Protection Overlay Ordinance. The MS4 year-end reports for Allenstown and Pembroke were completed. He is also working with other towns, including Boscawen and Chichester, on different planning items.

Other Business

Matt Hicks invited Full Commissioners to login to the CommuteSmart Bikes, Buses and Brooms to track their virtual mileage to this meeting. Mike Tardiff noted the CommuteSmart link provided in the email and invited Commissioners to join the CNHRPC Team.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Ty Miller (Canterbury) and a second by Keith Johnson (Deering), the meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:25 PM.