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ROCHESTER
ROLLINSFORD
SOMERSWORTH
STRAFFORD
WAKEFIELD

**Public Hearing
Regional Master Plan Amendments
and
SRPC Annual Commission Meeting
Thursday, May 26, 2005 – 7PM
Roland Roberge Community Center
Rochester, NH**

Members Present: Tom Fargo – Chairman (Dover); Ed Jansen – Vice Chairman (Rollinsford); Larry Brown (Milton); Tom Crosby (Madbury); Kenn Ortmann, Sandy Keans, Tom Willis (Rochester); Rod Cools, Nancy Spencer Smith (Wakefield); Ron Gehl (New Durham)

Members Absent: Todd Brisard (Barrington); Walt Tierney, Frank Frazier (Brookfield); Tony McManus, Otis Perry (Dover); Representative (Durham); Randy Orvis (Farmington); Mel Jenkins (Lee); Janet Wall (Madbury); Representative (Middleton); Bruce Woodruff, (Milton); Fred Pearson, (Newmarket); Al Dixon Secretary/Treasurer (Newmarket); Scott Martin (Northwood); Heidi Seaverns, Rolfe Voltaire (Nottingham); Tom Willis, MaryLou Beaver, Roger Berube, Francis Vincent (Somersworth); Don Rhodes, Ted Huckins (Strafford); George Maglaras (Strafford County); Bobbie Goodrich (Wakefield)

SRPC Staff Present: Cynthia Copeland (Executive Director); Gerald Mylroie (Senior Land Use Planner); Casey Poe (Planner); Penny Finnegan (Recording Secretary)

Others Present: Don Gilbert (Rochester Resident); Judi Matthews (Portsmouth); Bambi Miller (SCCD); Joyce El Kouarti (Dover); Marcia Colbath (Dover); Chuck and Laurel Cox (Lee)

Proxy Votes: Otis Perry (Dover); Al Dixon, Fred Pearson (Newmarket); Mel Jenkins (Lee); Heidi Seaverns (Nottingham); Roger Berube (Somersworth); Ted Huckins (Strafford)

Call to Order, Welcome – Ed Jansen, Vice Chairman

Vice Chairman Jansen opened the meeting at 7:10 PM and asked everyone to introduce themselves. He noted there was a quorum.

1. Approval of Minutes from January 20, 2005

Brown made a motion to approve the January 20, 2005 minutes as written. Ortmann seconded. The January 20, 2005 minutes were approved as written.

2. Annual Budget

Copeland presented the FY06 Annual Budget. The contract renewal for the UPWP with NHDOT is in place.

Cools made a motion to approve the FY06 Annual Budget as presented. Crosby seconded. The motion carried. All were in favor.

3. FY06 Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members

Vice Chairman Jansen directed the attendees to the Official Ballot.

Ortmann made a motion to approve the list of officers for fiscal year 2006 as presented on the ballot. Crosby seconded. All were in favor. Copeland thanked the officers for their participation and support.

Listed below are the results:

Chairman: Tom Fargo (Dover)

Vice Chairman: Ed Jansen (Rollinsford)

Secretary/Treasurer: Al Dixon (Newmarket)

Executive Committee:

Rod Cools (Wakefield)

Tom Crosby (Madbury)

Kenn Ortmann (Rochester)

Heidi Seaverns (Nottingham)

Bruce Woodruff - Alternate (Milton)

4. Approval of Regional Master Plan Amendments - Policies and Implementation Strategies

Vice Chairman Jansen asked Mylroie to give an introduction of the Regional Master Plan amendments.

Mylroie said the amendments to the Regional Master Plan are the culmination of FY05 work. He reviewed the chapters to be amended. The Commission held four public workshops, eleven Technical Working Group meetings that assisted with policies and strategies, and three articles were published in the Foster's Daily Democrat. Mylroie said copies of the amendments as well as a brochure that summarized the amendments to the Regional Master Plan were sent to over 600 municipal officials and citizens.

Vice Chairman Jansen opened the Public Hearing and asked for comments. Hearing none, Gehl made a motion to approve the amendments to the Regional Master Plan, and the Quality of Life Brochure and Quality Improvement Plan Cooperation Agreement as presented. Crosby seconded. The motion carried.

The amendments to the Regional Master Plan are as follows:

1. *Regional Policy Goals as part of the Vision section*
2. *Population and Growth Management Policies and Implementation Strategies*
3. *Land Use Policies and Implementation Strategies*
4. *Transportation that incorporates Policies and Implementation Strategies from the previously adopted Seacoast Metropolitan Planning Organization Long Range Transportation Plan (2003-2022)*
5. *Character and Appearance Policies and Implementation Strategies*
6. *Natural Hazard Risk Reduction Policies and Implementation Strategies*

Mylroie summarized the Quality of Life Brochure. He said the Commission wants to use this brochure as an educational marketing tool. Mylroie urged communities to consider adopting the Strafford Region Quality Improvement Plan and Cooperation Agreement to achieve an improved quality of life.

Chairman Tom Fargo and Chuck and Laurel Cox arrived at 7:30 pm.

Ortmann said now is an interesting time in New Hampshire. He talked about population growth, the decrease in school-aged children, the interrelation of land use to demographics, and that there are fewer growing families and more residents. Ortmann said it is important to look at where we are heading, by looking where we have been.

Spencer Smith said municipal master plans need to be responsive to population changes, demographics, and liveable, walkable communities.

Mylroie thanked everyone for their support and guidance throughout the process. He added that the work is just beginning and we need to make the Vision a reality.

Finnegan arrived at 7:35 pm.

5. FY06 Work Plan

Copeland gave an overview of the FY06 Work Plan. She stated that the next step to the Regional Master Plan process is the Economic Development chapter. Copeland said a Regional Summit is planned to introduce the Strafford Region Quality Improvement Plan as part of the educational outreach process. The new SRPC website is up and running. Funding was granted for this project through the Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation. JRED Digital Arts developed the new design. Other work scheduled for FY 06 include Planning Board and Conservation Services, Train the Planners, Great Bay Greenway, a Coastal Watershed Conservation Plan, Hazard Mitigation Plans for the remaining communities in the SRPC Region, Route 125 Corridor Study, and Transportation Planning.

6. Commissioners Handbook

Copeland announced that Finnegan would be distributing a newly revised Commissioners Handbook. For those who did not attend, they would receive theirs via postal mail.

7. Guest Speaker, Dr. Lisa Shapiro, Chief Economist, Gallagher, Callahan and Gartrell

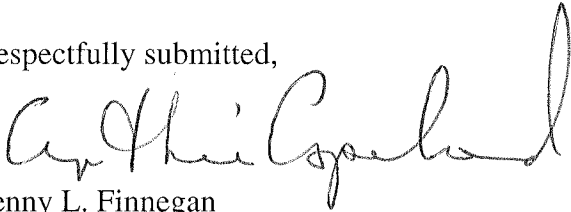
Copeland introduced Dr. Lisa Shapiro from Gallagher, Callahan and Gartrell. Copeland stated that Dr. Shapiro would give a presentation on the "Economic Impacts of Growth in New Hampshire." Dr. Shapiro's presentation is posted on the Gallagher, Callahan and Gartrell website and on the SRPC website under "What's New." Dr. Shapiro answered questions throughout the presentation.

Copeland thanked Dr. Shapiro for attending the meeting and for her presentation to the Commissioners.

7. Adjournment

With there being no further business to come before the Commission, Vice Chairman Jansen made a motion to adjourn. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Penny L. Finnegan
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission on September 29 , 2005

Thomas Fargo, Chairman