

BARRINGTON  
BROOKFIELD  
DOVER  
DURHAM  
FARMINGTON  
LEE  
MADBURY  
MIDDLETON  
MILTON



NEW DURHAM  
NEWMARKET  
NORTHWOOD  
NOTTINGHAM  
ROCHESTER  
ROLLINSFORD  
SOMERSWORTH  
STRAFFORD  
WAKEFIELD

## **Strafford Regional Planning Commission Annual Meeting**

**Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup> 2007**

**SRPC Commissioners Present:** Lawrence D Brown (Milton), Tom Crosby (Madbury), Al Dixon (Newmarket-proxy vote), Frank Frazier (Brookfield), Ed Jansen (Rollinsford), Mel Jenkins (Lee), Sandra Keans (Rochester), John Law (Farmington), Anne Martin (Brookfield), Scott Martin (Northwood), Kenn Ortmann (Rochester), Peter Stanhope (Durham), Frank Torr (Dover), Francis Vincent (Somersworth), Charles Wibel (Farmington), Tom Willis (Rochester) and Bruce Woodruff (Milton).

**SRPC Commissioners Not Present:** MaryLou Beaver (Rochester), Roger Berube (Somersworth), John Hinsman (Rollinsford), George Maglaras (Strafford County), Gail Mills (Nottingham-proxy vote), Clay Mitchell (Newmarket), Caren Rossi, (Lee-proxy vote) Nancy Spencer-Smith (Wakefield-proxy vote), and Janet Wall (Madbury).

**SRPC Staff:** Cynthia Copeland (SRPC), Dale Abbott (SRPC), Yvonne Allen (SRPC), Michelle Beauchamp (SRPC), Dan Camara (SRPC), Steve Fenstermaker (SRPC), Julie LaBranche (SRPC), and Linda Osburn.

**Others Present:** Emily Abbott, Steve Baker, Anna Boudreau, Tom Clark, Alyssa Copeland-Will, Albert Dionne, Penny Finnegan, Susanne Foster-Brown, Sarah Gagnon, Tom Gray, Diane Hardy, Nancy Johnson, Rose-Anne Kwaks, Elaine Lauterborn, Nathaniel Lead, Jim Martin, Kathy Menici, Martha Ortmann, Gayle Osburn, Roxanne Rines, Don Rhodes, Lisa Stanley, Carol Vita, Lou Vita, Stacy Willis and Dixon Worley.

*E.Jansen called the meeting to order.*

### **1. Tribute to Edgar "Ted" Huckins**

C.Copeland noted that Ted Huckins of Strafford passed away unexpectedly in April. It is a loss to the community as well as his family. He was an Executive Committee member and served in the US Air Corps during World War II and also served in the Army Reserves, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He was a graduate from UNH and worked for many years as a civil engineer for the NH DOT where he retired. He was a member and past president of the NH

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Society of Professional Engineers. He was a member of the NH Society of Civil Engineers, the Strafford Historical Society, had previously served on the Strafford School Board and served on the Strafford Planning Board. He was a Commissioner for 20 years with SRPC.

C.Copeland noted that SRPC will be making arrangements with Ted's family and friends in Strafford to purchase a tree and add to the landscaping in memory of Ted Huckins and the contributions he made to the Regional Planning Commission as well as the community of Strafford.

**2. January 30<sup>th</sup> 2007 Minutes.**

M.Jenkins made the motion to approve the January 30<sup>th</sup> 2007 minutes as written. T.Crosby seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**3. FY 2008 Annual Budget**

K.Ortmann made the motion to approve the FY 2008 budget as proposed. T.Crosby seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**4. SRPC By-Laws.**

K.Ortmann made the motion to adopt the By-Laws as presented. T.Crosby seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**5. FY 2008 Officers and Executive Committee Member Elections.**

C.Copeland noted that at the May 11<sup>th</sup> 2007 Executive Committee meeting, the following slate of Officers and four members of the Executive Committee were recommended for Fiscal Year 2008 for consideration and approval of the full Commission. Edmund Jansen Jr (Rollinsford) as Chairman, Frank Torr (Dover) as Vice-Chairman, C.Thomas Crosby (Madbury) as Secretary/Treasurer, Bruce Woodruff (Milton), Kenn Ortmann (Rochester) and Larry Brown (Milton). Ann Martin (Brookfield) was nominated to fill the additional vacancy.

K.Ortmann made the motion to cast one unanimous ballot. L.Brown seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**6. Outstanding Community Awards.**

C.Copeland noted that she wanted to thank the Town of Milton for the decisions they made during the "Mother's Day 2006 and April 2007 floods". The decisions the Town made were important to the down stream communities. She realized the sacrifices the town has made over the last two years.

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C.Copeland presented an award to the Town of Milton in recognition for their outstanding efforts and commitment to town planning. This year, the town adopted a Conservation Subdivision, Conservation Overlay District, Impact Fee Ordinance, and a Transfer of Development Rights Ordinance.

C.Copeland presented an award to the Town of Lee in recognition for their outstanding efforts and commitment to town planning and conservation planning. The Town of Lee is the only community in the State that has a Land Protection Administrator-Laurel Cox. In the last 8-years the town has spent nearly 2 million dollars of town funds on land protection. The town protected 1,239 acres of forestland wildlife habitat and wetlands, which almost 90% is protected through conservation easement, leaving the land in private ownership, continuing to pay yearly property taxes. The remaining 11% is owned by the town for a variety of public benefits, especially passive recreation. The town received close to \$790,000 worth of land or easements donated by residents and received over 2.3 million dollars in grants.

C.Copeland noted that that the town has been working with the Lamprey River Advisory Committee and Oyster River Watershed Association, as well as the Federal Wildlife and Scenic Designation. The Lee Recreation Commission has planned for the Little River Park. The town is working with UNH students and professors on several projects. The town has an Agricultural Commission and Heritage Commission as well as a Cooperative Farmers Market.

### **7. Seacoast Metropolitan Reorganization Process**

C.Copeland noted that she has visited 14 communities in our region and has received their support. She plans to visit, Durham, Middleton, Dover and Brookfield shortly. Our goals is to have 75% support from the communities in the Seacoast MPO, we are currently at 82% support. We are at the point that we can move forward, however, both Regional Planning Commissions would like to hear from all the communities. A letter will be sent to NHDOT asking them to start the bureaucratic process of getting the letter ready to be sent to the Governor. The Governor will then approve or disapprove the realignment designation. We hope to be our own MPO by July of 2007.

### **8. Exit 9 Park and Ride**

E.Jansen noted that one of the changes occurring in this area is the amount of traffic. He noted that Bruce Woodruff who is a resident of the Town of Milton and works for the City of Dover Planning Department has some interesting ideas on a park and ride to address the issue.

B.Woodruff noted that a park and ride project would be located right off of Exit 9 on Spaulding Turnpike and hopefully in the future at Exit 12. He noted that this project has been in the works since 1996 and has a regional significance. B.Woodruff noted that the park and ride would include a bus terminal. The project needs a letter of support noting the regional importance of the project.

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C.Copeland noted that the original approval for 200 parking spaces back in 2004 was for 1.72 million dollars. In 2006 it was upgraded to over 400 parking spaces at 2 million dollars. She noted that with no proposed changes, just inflation, the newest figure is at 3.5 million dollars. B.Woodruff added that no other projects in the pipeline would be affected.

S.Keans made the motion to recommend that the State-wide CMAQ Committee approve the inflationary construction cost increases for the Dover Exit 9 Park and Ride Project, knowing that the project scope has not changed and the increases are due to the approximately 41% construction inflation rate over the past two years that the project has been delayed by a property acquisition problem. M.Jenkins seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**9. Guest Speaker: Brian Gottlob, PolEcon Research of Dover, NH**

*Topic: Demographic and Economics in New Hampshire*

C.Copeland introduced Brian Gottlob, the Principal of PolEcon Research in Dover New Hampshire. She noted that Mr. Gottlob for the last 18 years has analyzed economic, demographics, labor market, industry and public trends for the private sector, government and not-for-profit organizations. He has completed economic, market, and policy studies and developed analytical models for clients on a range of economic, labor market, real estate, fiscal policies, energy, education and healthcare issues in New Hampshire and 18 other states. He is a senior fellow at the Milton and Rose D. Friedman Foundation. He has been an instructor at Whittimore School of Business and Economics at UNH. He has been a member of the Advisory Board at the New England Economic Partnership. Prior to founding PolEcon, he was the vice president for Fiscal and Economic Policy at the Business and Industry Association of NH. He is a graduate of the University of New York and the University of New Hampshire.

**10. Adjournment**

A motion was made and all were in favor to adjourn the meet at 9:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Beauchamp  
Strafford Regional Planning Commission