Barrington Natural Resources & Cultural Heritage Committee

Minutes of Wednesday, May 28th, 2014 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM Barrington Public Library

1. Welcome

There were nine people in attendance including Molly Donovan (UNH Cooperative Extension) and acting chairperson, Sam Boduch.

2. Introductions

Participants introduced themselves and briefly shared their reasons for attending.

3. Establishing group norms

The following norms were suggested and discussed:

- Be respectful
- Let people talk one at a time
- Listening is as important as talking
- Have a "back-up" chairperson
- Have a defined start and end time for meetings
- Be respectful of everyone's time
- Practice headlining (Sam explained this as staying on major topics for discussion)

4. Who is not here, that we need?

It was suggested that a member of the Selectmen be invited to attend a meeting, as well as a member of the Planning Board and Town Planner Marcia Gasses.

5. What other information do we need?

The group discussed how it would be helpful to be familiar with the existing Barrington Master Plan and zoning regulations. Molly will share links to allow folks to see the Barrington Master Plan chapter on Natural Resource Inventory. She also suggested visiting web sites that other communities have to see their visioning statements and future land use plans in their Master Plans.

6. Review the Notes From the Community Profile (Envision Barrington) Molly passed out the notes from the Envision Barrington session and participants reviewed and commented on these, specifically relating to strengths and challenges for natural resources and environment, and projects and solutions. The three potential projects taken from the April 11th and 12th sessions were: proactive town planning and growth/re-examining existing zoning; add option of composting at various locations within the town; environmental and community rights ordinance – limit types of exploitation, education about ordinance. Cilia Bannenberg shared the history behind the community rights ordinance and how this relates to town planning. Amy Antonucci mentioned that town composting could present the group with a shorter term, more immediate and accomplishable goal. It was suggested that further study needs to be done on need and how this project might be accomplished before moving ahead.

7. What is our charter?

There was discussion about what the purpose of the group is and how this relates to town planning and input into the Master Plan. The desired outcomes suggested were:

- To clearly communicate our projects/recommendation to town officials
- To serve as a research gathering group for the town
- To gather information on a community composting facility
- To educate about group goals
- 8. Next meeting Wednesday June 25th

It is tentatively planned that meetings will be on the 4th Wednesday of each month, with the next meeting on June 25th. The meeting place will be posted in advance.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00

Respectfully submitted, Pat Lenzi