



BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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Minutes

Belknap County Commissioners Wrap up Forum from County Conversations Meetings, August 12, 2009 at 6:00 PM

Commissioner Boothby called the Belknap County Commissioners forum to order at 6:00 PM on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and started with the pledge of allegiance.

In Attendance: Chairman Christopher Boothby, Vice Chairman Edward Philpot Jr., Clerk Richard W. Long and County Administrator, Debra Shackett. Also in attendance was Nick Manolis of Primex, the facilitator of tonight's meeting.

1. Pledge and Introductions: The meeting started with the pledge of allegiance followed by introductions of the Commissioners, Administrator, County Convention Officers and representatives.

2. Overview of Commissioners Goals and strategic plans: Mr. Manolis commended Belknap County for taking this active role in bringing communities and their officials together for efficiency, better communication and to openly discuss more beneficial ways of doing business. Belknap County is a role model in this imitative. Good management = Good risk management Mr. Manolis outlined goals that the Commissioners developed during this process to the audience. There were questions and answers and conversations ensued.

3. Intended Results: Mr. Manolis lead the forum with discussions on thoughts of the intended results from these county conversation meetings. This allowed for questions and answers with the audience.

4. Goals of the Board of Commissioners: Mr. Manolis outlined the goals that the Board of Commissioners established back in February as compared to where they are at on this date and into the future. Discussions with the audience ensued. Economic vitality is at the fore front of these conversations with the towns and city and all parties present. A better, more efficient regionalization of services can be obtained going forward. All services are relevant and important to our communities; it is just a question of providing those services most efficiently and at what level. Education is a key component.

5. Input from the audience (towns, city, outside agencies, members of the public, etc.): There were many suggestions from the audience on how to go about merging (or not) for efficiencies. People are very passionate about their communities and education and communication throughout the towns/city. The County could act as a facilitator in this process to bring all members to the table for communication and discussions on the needs in their communities. County could be that central point.

6. Bring together Administrators/Managers: A starting point to the next level will be to invite all of the town managers/administrators to the County to sit down together and collectively start discussions

7. Wrap up: Mr. Manolis summarized the basis of tonight's discussions. There was a lot of great information exchange and a lot of good open communication. The County will reach out to the towns/city on this ongoing process. Commissioners thanked everyone for coming for being a part of this important discussion and planning of all of our future rolls.

8. Adjourn: Mr. Manolis wrapped up the public forum at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant