

DEERFIELD PLANNING BOARD
DEERFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
APRIL 27, 2016

MINUTES OF MEETING

PRESENT: Planning Board members Peter Schibbelhute, Kate Hartnett, Selectmen's Representative Fred McGarry, William Perron, David Doran. Also present Planning Consultant Gerald Coogan and secretary Jane Boucher.

Chair Peter Schibbelhute called the meeting to order at 7PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Fred McGarry moved and David Doran seconded to approve the minutes of April 13, 2016 as printed. Voted in favor with Peter Schibbelhute abstaining.

APPROVAL OF MANIFEST

Fred McGarry moved to approve the manifest in the amount of \$3,538.31 (\$1,538.31 Upton & Hatfield; \$2,000 SNHPC; 20 1/2 hours Jane Boucher) Kate Hartnett seconded. Voted in favor.

COMPLETE STREETS/SNHPC; SYLVIA von Aulock

Sylvia von Aulock was present and presented a slide demonstration for the Complete Streets toolkit noting that Complete Streets are designed and operated to enable safe access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities.

A copy of the packet outlining the project along with an application form is attached to these minutes.

Fred McGarry moved to submit an application to SNHPC for Complete Streets which is due June 3, 2016. William Perron seconded. Voted in favor. Gerald Coogan will complete the application and submit it to the Board for approval

7:45PM CONTINUATION PUBLIC HEARING: EVERSOURCE/TRIMMING AND REMOVAL OF TREES/ SCENIC ROADS

Catalina Santaro, Eversource, Ian Farley, Asplundh, and Jeff Lamphere, Lewis Logging were present along with several Deerfield residents

Chair Schibbelhute read a letter from Barbara and Robert Mathews noting that they have reviewed the three trees on their property and that of Geraldine Mathews which appear on the Town of Deerfield Risk Tree Removal List for Scenic Roads submitted by Eversource and agreed to their removal. A copy of the letter is attached to these minutes.

Catalina Santaro, Community Relations Eversource, noted that

the tree trimming and cutting that is currently being done in Deerfield is not in any way related to the Northern Pass Project. The trimming being done is purely for liability purposes for the circuits feeding Deerfield and Raymond. Ms. Santaro said that it is part of their regular trimming process.

Ian Farley said that every four years they come through and do maintenance trimming noting that this trimming has been different as the circuit has been performing poorly. He noted that this is what they call their "enhanced tree trimming program" (ETTP). Mr. Farley said they have tried to meet individually with property owners to have them sign off on the removal of trees. He said that there have been refusals from some property owners and no cutting will be done on those properties. He reiterated that the ETT Program has no connection or ties with the Northern Pass Project.

Catalina Santaro said that a brochure is now on the web site which explains why they trim and how they trim, transmission lines and distribution lines.

Fred McGarry asked if trees to be cut have been flagged on scenic roads.

Jeff Lamphere replied that some trees have been flagged and all trees to be cut will be flagged within two weeks. He provided a list of trees and said that he will see that it is posted on the web site.

Mr. Lamphere noted that trees have been identified as trimming 15 feet above, 8 feet beside and 10 feet below. Any established trees over 6 inches will remain.

Al Yeager, Perry Road, said that two trees have been cut on his frontage two weeks ago. He noted that Road Agent Mark Young had approached him and asked if they could cut trees as Harley Stevens was building a home on the next lot.

Both Mr. Lamphere and Mr. Farley said no cutting had been done by them and they will check to be certain.

Fred McGarry said the Highway Department had no permission to cut on scenic roads and will bring this up at the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. McGarry referred to RSA 231-158-159 outlining procedure for cutting on a scenic road.

Dennie Greig asked if Best Management Practices were being utilized with respect to knot weeds.

Mr. Farley said that Eversource NH does not have a herbicide program in place.

Catalina Santaro will check and respond.

Mr. Farley said that the ETT Program has no encountered any spread and will meet with crews to make them aware of knot weed.

Jeanne Menard referred to mention of series of outages and questioned and if falling trees on lines actually causing outages.

Catalina Santaro replied that the Board of Selectmen have asked her for a report on the number of outages that have been going on and why. She added that the majority of the outages were related to trees on lines. Over 60% of outages state wide are due to falling trees.

Fred McGarry noted that they have nine scenic roads listed with forty one trees to be cut. He asked if people from roads listed could ask what trees are on the list.

Mr. Lamphere said that no more trees will be added to the list and all trees will be identified with blue and white checkered flags. He will ask Bob Berner, Eversource, to send a listing to the Town for it's web site.

Jo-Ann Bradbury questioned the policy of using a "flag man" when cutting on roads.

Mr. Farley said that when they come to a town they contact the police department.

Ms. Bradbury noted that she felt a flag man should be present when cutting is being done.

Peter Schibbelhute said that was the responsibility of the Police Department and they should be contacted if a dangerous situation was noticed.

Mr. Lamphere said that when Lewis Company is cutting on scenic roads they will use police detail or private flag men.

Ian Farley will address this issue with Asplundh to insure appropriate safety.

Jeff Lamphere said that the only trees that will be removed from scenic roads will be trees flagged and permission given by homeowners.

Peter Lion questioned what will be done with the trees that have been cut.

Ian Farley said that if the homeowner does not want the wood, Asplundh will come in and remove or push the material back.

Steve Faulkner questioned removing stumps on scenic roads.

Ian Farley said that they should be flushed.

Joan Bilodeau questioned cutting on Nottingham Road and also what will be done with the pines that have been cut.

Mr. Farley replied that often time the State takes pine. Dennie Greig said the Town does have a wood bank, which she runs, and they would be happy to take some wood.

Mr. Farley said they have thirteen miles of cutting to do in Deerfield and to answer the question regarding Nottingham Road, he would need to do research. He added that all trees that have been flagged , owners permission has been given.

Jo-Ann Bradbury questioned if agreements with the Town have been signed and are available.

Mr. Farley said that Asplundh does keep permission records and he will check.

Mr. Page, South Road, commented on several trees being cut and asked if there was any procedure in place by those cutting. He complained that several trees had been cut on his property and he had never given permission to do so.

Jeff Lamphere said that Lewis Co. will not cut any trees without permission from the homeowners permission.

Paula Duchano, Bean Hill Road, questioned what trees will be cut on the road.

Jo-Ann Bradbury asked if a member of the Planning Board could be present when trees are being cut on scenic roads. Chair Schibbelhute said the the Board discuss this at a later date.

Jeff Lamphere will generate a list of scenic roads and trees to be cut as well as flag those trees. The list will be added to the web site.

The Board urged people to view the web site.

Fred McGarry moved to continue the Public Hearing for Eversource to Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 7:15PM. William

Perron seconded. Voted in favor.

9:15PM TETREULT SUBDIVISION

Gerald Coogan provided copies of a Draft for Road Maintenance for the Tetreault Subdivision and asked the Board for their input.

Fred McGarry commented that he would like to see mention of the ownership of the right of way and paid taxes.

WORK PROGRAM/ 2016

Gerald Coogan suggested the following for the Board's consideration

- . Review and update the Zoning Ordinance for consistency with State law and best planning practices; items for update include the new Accessory Dwelling Unit law, the "Smith Ordinance" provision and others.

- . Prepare a short version of the CIP with background information; SNPC provides four hours of service at no charge and bills for additional time.

- . Master Plan update; The last Master Plan was updated in 2008 and certified by the Planning Board in September 2009.

Activities involve reviewing the Vision statement and identify chapters should be updated. Decide how and when to proceed with the update

- .Planning Office Storage area: Assist with the organization of the Planning Office.

ROLLINS/SITE PLAN REVIEW

Steve Rollins was present.

Gerald Coogan noted that Gloria Andrews for NH DES sent Ms. Rollins a letter stating that the Alteration of Terrain permit is approved for another two years. Mr. Coogan reviewed the minutes of November 4, 2015 and it appears the conditions of approval have not been completed.

Peter Schibbelhute asked Mr. Rollins if he had a CO for his home to which he replied "no". He asked if he has paid his impact fee. Mr. Rollins replied "no". He asked if he had reached an agreement with his neighbors. Mr. Rollins said he has had some conversation with neighbors.

Mr. Rollins said he was waiting for a letter from Upton & Hatfield and a letter outlining conditions of approval by the Planning Board.

Gerald Coogan said the letter, drafted by the Attorney, was sent to Mr. Rollins in July, 2015. Mr. Rollins said that was a draft and was to be done over.

Mr. Rollins questioned why an attorney was called in. Peter Schibbelhute told him that the Planning Board consults with their attorney regarding all agreements.

Mr. Rollins questioned why his name was on the agenda and he had not been told.

It was pointed out that there were several individuals named on the agenda without appointments.

He was told that his conditional approval for a Site Plan Review had lapsed and his engineer did not know that the approval lapsed in 120 days.

There were six conditions listed in the approval. Mr. Rollins was given a copy of the minutes of the November 4, 2015 meeting reflecting the conditions of approval.

In view of this, Mr. Rollins asked for an extension.

Board members asked how much time he felt was necessary to have his engineer complete the plans and comply with the other conditions, including payment of past due invoices.

One of the conditions was receiving a letter from Nellie Rollins authorizing Steve Rollins to act on her behalf. Mr. Rollins said that letter had been sent to the Planning Board. The secretary indicated that she had never received it.

At this time Mr. Rollins went to his truck and got a copy of the letter signed by Nellie Rollins authorizing him to act on her behalf. He gave the copy to the Planning Board.

During discussion Peter Schibbelhute urged Mr. Rollins to meet with his abutters to work on an agreement that will need to be included when renewal of the Excavation Permit is applied for.

William Perron moved and Fred McGarry seconded to grant an extension to Steve Rollins for a Site Plan Review to lapse on June 8, 2016. The plans are due for review by the Board by May 25, 2016. If Mr. Rollins fails to comply with the conditions stated by the dates listed, the approval for a Site Plan Review will be revoked. Voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 PM.

Recorded and transcribed by
Jane Boucher
Pending Approval by the Planning Board



Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

438 Dubuque Street, Manchester, NH 03102-3546, Telephone (603) 669-4664 Fax (603) 669-4350
www.snhpc.org

March 18, 2016

Dear SNHPC Communities,

The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission has worked with its communities to preserve the special character and valuable resources of the region for half a century. SNHPC is pleased to announce an exciting new project for 2016 aimed at making more efficient use of existing local roadways for all users. Complete Streets are designed and operated to enable safe access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities. Complete Streets make it easier to cross the street, walk to shops, bicycle to work and enhance the community.

Project Background

SNHPC is preparing a Complete Streets toolkit over the next several months which will include planning/policy guidance and design/engineering standards, and regulatory land use guidance. A *Complete Streets Steering Committee* will be involved throughout the project and is made up of state and local agencies, professionals, municipal staff, transportation coalitions, and other stakeholders.

Pilot Program

An upcoming pilot program will provide three communities in the SNHPC region with a variety of project/program opportunities including:

- Pop-up planning initiative
- Policy/resolution development
- Design standards
- Education/outreach

Benefits can be recognized in all municipalities to which complete streets principles are applied, regardless of size. One of the goals of this program is to accomplish a pilot project in at least one urban, one suburban, and one rural community.

What are we looking for from your community?

Please let us know how complete streets could help your community by describing the following in the attached application:

- What are the existing impediments (physical or otherwise) to full access for all users?
- How could improving access to streets in your community improve safety, expand opportunities for use of the public way, encourage economic development, and/or increase tourism opportunities?

Please complete the accompanying application (by May 6th, 2016) if your community is interested in being one of three communities for the pilot program. SNHPC looks forward to working with you to enhance streets region-wide. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions regarding the pilot project application or any aspect of the complete streets effort.

Sincerely,

Sylvia von Aulock, Deputy Executive Director
Southern NH Planning Commission



Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

438 Dubuque Street, Manchester, NH 03102-3546, Telephone (603) 669-4664 Fax (603) 669-4350
www.snhpc.org

SNHPC Complete Streets Community Application Form

SNHPC has been provided funding from NHDOT to work with up to three communities on a pilot project that embraces the Complete Streets vision. Put simply, complete streets are streets designed for all users of all ages and all abilities. Please fill out the following form no later than May 6th and return to Sylvia von Aulock at SNHPC.

Name of Municipality: _____

Contact Person and Title: _____

Contact Phone and Email: _____

Authorizing Agent/ Title: _____

Project Title: _____

Project Type: Please check at least one in first column and one in the second column.

*For clarification on project types, see attachment entitled -
Complete Streets Pilot Program: Project Menu Items for Communities.*

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pop-up Planning Initiative | <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Design Standard Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Rural |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education Outreach | |

Project Description: Narrative, Map, Photo

Provide attachment including narrative, map of location, and photo. Please check all those that are included. Note, only narrative is required, not all are applicable.

Project Partners including land use boards, town officials, town staff or departments, citizens, agencies, businesses, consultants: _____

Proposed Project Time Frame: _____

Materials and Other Resources Needed (Note: SNHPC can assist your community in researching Pop-up planning Initiative material resources but this program does not fund the purchase of materials):-

Public Meetings Anticipated Including Approximate Dates (Note: this could include Planning Board, Selectmen, or other public meetings) _____

Please let us know how complete streets could help your community by describing the following:

1. What are the existing impediments (physical or otherwise) to full access for all users? _____

2. How could improving access to streets in your community improve safety, expand opportunities for use of the public way, encourage economic development, and/or increase tourism opportunities? _____

Complete Streets Pilot Program: Project Menu Items for Communities

- Pop-up planning initiative
 - This will involve the planning of a temporary demonstration street segment, using materials such as tape and bollards to delineate bike lanes, wider sidewalks, or other Complete Street-recommended elements. Maximum length of street should not exceed 1,000 feet or two blocks, whichever is more applicable.
- Policy/resolution development
 - This will assist your municipality toward developing a CS policy, using nationwide best practices and New Hampshire examples as guidelines.
- Design standards
 - This will assist your municipality in developing design standards. A review and commentary on the appropriateness of existing planning documents could also be included if desired.
- Education/outreach
 - This will involve educational assistance within a town. Planning commission staff will recruit individuals in whose communities Complete Streets have been explored in an effort to share experiences, successes, and challenges.

complete streets

snhpc fact sheet

What are Complete Streets?

Complete Streets are streets for everyone. They are designed & operated to enable safe access for all users. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, & public transportation users of all ages & abilities are able to safely move along & across a complete street. Complete Streets make it easy to cross the street, walk to shops, & bicycle to work. They allow buses to run on time & make it safe for people to walk to & from transit stops.

NH Complete Streets

Communities in New Hampshire have been nationally recognized by Smart Growth America as having some of the best complete street policies in the country. Each community has chosen a different path toward implementing the policies from City Policy to City Council Resolution. Some of these communities include: **Portsmouth, Concord, Keene, Dover, and Swanzey**



Pedestrian Crossing Demo: Swanzey, NH



Market Street, Portsmouth, NH



Main Street, Concord, NH

How can Complete Streets improve your Community?

Many communities across New Hampshire and throughout the nation are implementing complete streets policies, and enjoying the benefits.

Safety

A Federal Highways Administration safety review found that streets designed with sidewalks, raised medians, better bus stop placement, and traffic-calming measures improve pedestrian safety.

Encourage Walking and Biking

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention recently named adoption of Complete Streets policies as a recommended strategy to prevent obesity. Easy access to transit can also contribute to healthy physical activity.

Lower Transportation Costs

When residents have the opportunity to walk, bike, or take transit, they have more control over their expenses by replacing car trips with these inexpensive options.

Foster Strong Communities

Complete streets play an important role in livable communities, where all people – regardless of age, ability or mode of transportation – feel safe & welcome on the streets.

Economic Benefits of Complete Streets:

Result in Jobs



Bicycling and walking projects create 11-14 jobs per \$1 million spent, compared to just 7 jobs created per \$1 million spent on highway projects.

Support Business



Protected bicycle lanes led to a 49% increase in retail sales at local businesses.

Improve Property Values



Homes with higher Walk Scores sell for \$4,000-34,000 more. Just a 1-point increase in Walk Score is associated with \$700- \$3,000 increase in home values.

April 26, 2016

Deerfield Planning Board,
8 Raymond Road,
Deerfield, NH 03037

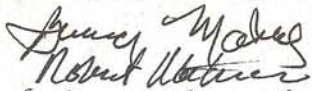
Dear Members of the Deerfield Planning Board,

Since we can't attend your April 28th hearing concerning the proposed tree cutting along scenic roads we are sending you our comments in writing.

We have reviewed the three trees on our property and that of Geraldine Mathews which appear on The Town of Deerfield Risk Tree Removal List for Scenic Roads submitted by Eversource with Eversource's representative and have agreed to their removal due to condition in two cases and in the case of the third tree due to its immediate proximity to the power lines.

In general, however, we would urge extreme caution when cutting trees along scenic roads, especially in light of the radical removal of trees which is happening along other roadways throughout the town. We are appalled at the devastation that has occurred and the resulting loss of beauty and rural character. If there is anything the Planning Board or other local bodies can do about this wholesale denudation of Deerfield's roadsides we would urge swift action to save whatever we can.

Thank you for all the good work you do for our town,


Barbara & Robert Mathews