

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**September 26, 2011**

**7:30 P.M. – MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING – HANOVER, NH**

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Brian Walsh. Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman; Peter Christie, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman; Judy Doherty, Selectman; Julia Griffin, Town Manager and Jessie Levine, Assistant Town Manager/Human Resources Director.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Chairman Walsh asked for Public Comment. Chairman Walsh invited Martha Solow to speak to the Board.

Martha Solow stated she has lived in Hanover for over 40 years and has been involved in Town Government about that long. She comes before the Board with her observations about the planning process in Hanover. She stated that it appears to her that there is a problem with the process that is taking away from Town government and includes bias and favoritism. The process of applications and planning have been distorted and she wanted to give some specifics. Ms. Solow stated that she was speaking specifically about the Friends of Hanover Crew application. She stated that 2½ years ago the crew came to the Board of Selectmen with a request to use the Town's public dock for part of their program for rowing in Hanover. The Selectmen held a number of meetings and invited a lot of public information and at the end of those discussions decided to invite Hanover Crew to proceed with the application despite criticisms and concerns of residents. Instead of going forward as with any other application, this has gone forward with glitches that are distorting the process. The first issue is the involvement of the Town as a co-applicant for the dock. The process started with the Town's involvement rather than the Friends of Hanover Crew going forward to see if it could pass the ZBA, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, etc. So instead of doing the normal application process, this began with the Selectmen and as an observer of the process it appeared that the Select Board was being co-opted for this private group. Ms. Solow went on to state that rather than being a co-applicant, the Town of Hanover became the sole applicant to the DES, Army Corps and Governor's Council.

Ms. Solow stated that the Town became co-applicant not only for the dock application for the Department of Environmental Services, but to the Army Corps of Engineers and the Governor's Council. She doesn't know why that happened but the effect for the public was the appearance that the Town was applying for this proposal. Secondly, the Town became the applicant to Boards and Commissions of the community and she doesn't understand how that can happen because it isn't the Town's proposal it's the private club's proposal. Most recently, when she reviewed the re-submittal of the proposal that came to the Town this summer, she noted that the Friends of Hanover Crew was to be agent for the Town in these applications so it appears that the Town has written a blank check for the proposal. From the citizen's point of view, it appears that things have been "stood on their head" and she stated that she is alarmed. She is appealing

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to the Board of Selectmen to see if they can set things right. She was unsure of what would make it right but things are not right the way they are now. Chairman Walsh thanked Ms. Solow for her comments.

Chairman Walsh asked for other comments from the public. He invited Mr. Hogue to approach the Board to speak.

Ray Hogue, citizen of Hanover and Conservation Commission member, approached the Board and thanked them for allowing him to address them. Mr. Hogue wanted to respond to a letter that the Town of Hanover received from Mr. Ceplikas of Dartmouth College dated August 30, 2011. He read a letter that he provided to the Board:

“With regard to this letter I have three points:

First, Mr. Ceplikas’ letter suggests that Hanover Crew’s time at the Dartmouth crew dock is limited. This leaves the Chieftain as the alternative to Fullington Farm and Wilson’s Landing as the site for Hanover Crew to practice and hold regattas. It is my understanding that although the Friends of Hanover Crew (FOHC), or its predecessor constituents, supported the Chieftain in its successful application to install a rowing dock by indicating that Hanover Crew would make Chieftain its home, the Chieftain was ruled out as a viable site in this process by Jonathan Edwards due to the ice not being ‘out’ by the middle of March and the driveway being too steep for crew members to walk down. I would like to suggest that, contrary to Mr. Edwards and FOHC’s contentions, the Chieftain is well-suited to be the home of Hanover Crew. I drove to the Chieftain this last mid-March to see if the ice was “out” and found that it was. I also spoke with Jennifer at the front desk and she indicated that the driveway has not been a problem for anyone else, in the morning or otherwise. Indeed, Lebanon Crew has recently chosen to hold its practices at the Chieftain. I spoke to Jennifer at the Chieftain about this and she said that even though Lebanon Crew was going to practice in the afternoons (while Hanover has expressed a preference for morning practices), the Chieftain, which has made a substantial commitment to serving the needs of Upper Valley rowers, could still accommodate both Lebanon and Hanover teams at the same practice time. Thus, I would like to suggest that the Select Board consider the Chieftain as an alternative for the site of Hanover Crew practices and regattas. This may include an extensive site visit and interviews with Chieftain management.

Second, Mr. Ceplikas’ letter, along with the Chieftain’s successful hosting of many rowing regattas and now upcoming hosting of the Lebanon Crew team’s practices and regattas, highlights that the FOHC proposal would result in the Town of Hanover having three rowing facilities capable of hosting **hundreds** of rowers each day. Given that Wilson’s Landing is the **only** Town-owned river access in the entire Town of Hanover, I find it odd and ill-advised to allow for the build-out of another large rowing facility when two others are just one and three miles away. Both Dartmouth and the Chieftain (both of which welcome the public) provide wonderful facilities for both local and out of town rowers and rowing organizations. So, in the interest of providing for a **diversity of activities and ambiances** for the citizens of Hanover and the Upper Valley, I would suggest that two large rowing facilities in one town are enough.

Third and lastly, I must respectfully submit that I am uncomfortable with what I perceive as a reactionary methodology on the part of the Select Board regarding the FOHC's proposed use of the **only** Town-owned access to the river. Just because a project can be permitted does not mean it is the best use of a site or that it is in the best interests of **all** the citizens of Hanover. In this instance, given the alternative provided by the Chieftain, and given the nature of the process put in place to explore the FOHC's initial proposal, the Select Board has the ability to be pro-active and do a well-considered analysis of how Wilson's Landing can fit into the Town's diverse offering of activities and ambiances - not just today but for the future. Obviously, FOHC is anxious to start building-out Fullington Farm and Wilson's Landing and their request of Mr. Ceplikas that he write his letter is intended to not just be informational, but "inspirational" as well. But, I implore the Select Board to take control of Hanover's future and take the time to really explore the alternatives for Wilson's Landing and not be unduly influenced by a well-organized and well-funded minority proposing a redundant use.

**My recommendations:**

- a) That a Master Plan be developed for Wilson's Landing that would consider, among other things, how Wilson's Landing could benefit the **overall** citizenry of Hanover and not just a single private organization and that this Master Plan recognize that Hanover already has two rowing facilities capable of handling hundreds of rowers a day that provide public access.
- b) That, if necessary, the Hanover Crew team practice and hold regattas at The Chieftain until a Master Plan for Wilson's Landing can be developed (and beyond if it is found that other uses than that proposed by FOHC are determined to be a better and **more inclusive** use of Wilson's Landing).

Thank you for your consideration."

Chairman Walsh thanked Mr. Hogue for his comments. He also stated that this Public Comment session is not going to become a public hearing about Wilson's Landing and the Friends of Hanover Crew. Chairman Walsh noted that there is an item on the agenda in which the Board will have a discussion about a response to the letter from Mr. Ceplikas which is also not a public hearing.

Chairman Walsh invited Alice Creagh to approach the Board.

Alice Creagh read a letter to the Board on behalf of herself and her husband John:

"Dear Members of the Select Board:

We write this letter because as abutters to the Fullington Farm property we were very concerned when we read in the Valley News that there was a letter from Dartmouth athletics that was being presented to this Select Board tonight as part of the Friends of Hanover Crew applications.

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Please let me start off by saying that for us there is an elephant in the room that we need to identify. It is our perception that this whole process has been dealt with in a prejudicial manner since the Town Manager, Julia Griffin, is part of the Upper Valley Rowing community. This is a project that Ms. Griffin wants and supports. This raises a question of whether this proposal is best for the Town of Hanover or for a select few in the town.

Also, last year at two of the Zoning Board meetings, the Friends of Hanover Crew were allowed to present their case, while those of us who wanted to contribute were not given ample time. We did receive an apology from the Chairman of the Zoning Board. After those meetings the Friends of Hanover Crew withdrew their application for a private club and are going to resubmit their case asking for recreational use in an RR3 zone, but they were not asked to go back to the Select Board with their revised application. From our perspective this seems unfair.

Also unsettling to us is the fact that the letter went to the Select Board rather than to Hanover High School. When I called Mr. Ceplikas, Deputy Director of Athletics at Dartmouth and the author of the letter, and asked him why his letter had not been submitted to Deb Gillespie, Principal of Hanover High School, or better yet why it had not been addressed to Michael Jackson, the Athletic Director at Hanover High School, I was told that he (Mr. Ceplikas) had been asked by the Friends of Hanover Crew to submit the letter to the Hanover Select Board. The problem addressed in Mr. Ceplikas' letter is not a problem for the Select Board but is a problem for Hanover High School.

To illustrate why we think that Mr. Ceplikas' letter should have been addressed to the Hanover High School we would like to point out that the town would not be approached if Dartmouth communicated that they no longer had room for the Hanover High swim team to use their pool. Would this Select Board feel obligated to help with finding a place for the swim team to practice? There are teams at any high school that cannot accommodate all of the students who want to participate in a particular sport. One example would be the hockey team. There are just so many places on the Hanover High School hockey team and if you don't make the varsity team you can choose to play for the Hanover Hockey Association team that is sponsored by parents. If the crew has grown to 140 students and some 20 coaches, consideration might be made to divide up into groups that can be accommodated by Dartmouth and the Chieftain, both established and capable facilities.

The Friends of Hanover Crew have made a number of changes since their proposal of May 20, 2009. An example of a change that would affect our neighborhood is that we were lead to believe there would only be a need for a fifteen minute arrival and launch time. Mrs. Nancy Carter, a board member of the Friends of Hanover Crew, in her discussion with the Conservation Committee let them know that there would be a need for more than a 45 minute time for morning arrivals and launchings. Mrs. Carter stated that coaches would arrive before 5:00 a.m. and then students would arrive in 10 minute intervals. (So from quarter to 5:00 until quarter to 6:00 we have 160 people arriving next door).

Mrs. Carter also said that the Friends of Hanover Crew had a fiduciary responsibility to earn enough monies from the property to pay taxes, purchase insurance, pay for upkeep of the

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buildings and the boats, etc. If this looks like a business and operates as a business, is it not a business?

Thank you for your consideration.”

Chairman Walsh thanked Mrs. Creagh for her comments.

Chairman Walsh welcomed the students that were present and gave an overview of the way that the Board of Selectmen’s meeting is run. Chairman Walsh noted that the first order of business is always Public Comment and although the Board does not act on things brought up in Public Comment, it could lead to a future agenda item where they address the issues.

## **2. PARKING & TRANSPORTATION BOARD LETTER REGARDING EMPLOYEE PARKING.**

Chairman Walsh invited members of the Parking & Transportation Board to approach the Select Board to speak about a letter that they submitted. He also asked for the members to identify themselves and their affiliations.

Janet Rebman, Hanover Area Chamber of Commerce; Bill Barr, 90 King Road and Dartmouth; Richard Brannen, resident of Etna; Matt Marshall, resident of Etna and the Hanover Improvement Society; Patrick O’Neill, Lieutenant in charge of the Parking Division; Nancy Cressman, owner of Left Bank Books; and Bill Baschnagel, Etna resident.

Bill Baschnagel thanked the Select Board for the opportunity to meet with the Parking and Transportation Board (PTB). The focus of the letter is to request some funds to hire a consultant. The PTB over the last several years has focused strongly on how to serve the employees working in town, not only parking but accessibility for employees. There is a known parking problem in town but the town does serve a wide constituency. There is limited ability to accommodate visitors. As they looked at this issue, they know that they need to work with the employees in town. So they’ve been working with Janet and Nancy to think of solutions and they have met with business owners and employees and brainstormed possible ways of addressing some of their needs. The PTB has not been terribly successful coming up with a solution and they also don’t have the data to understand the characteristics and needs. Mr. Baschnagel stated that Nancy Cressman has spent many hours trying to gather the information. How many employees are there between 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.? How many come and go throughout the day? How many employees have access to Advanced Transit? Nobody knows. This is not a quick project to develop. They are coming to the Board of Selectmen to see if they could hire a consultant to focus on the issues. The idea would be to have this person gather the data, characterize the needs and possible solutions and put some recommendations together that they can review and bring them to the Board. Mr. Baschnagel stated that the amount of \$25,000 seemed like a reasonable number and they believe it is available from the Parking Fund.

Mr. Baschnagel stated that the PTB would need to work with the Planning staff on this. If they find the right consultant, the study could be done relatively rapidly and they could put plans together next spring for trials. Ms. Cressman stated that she is also a member of the Downtown

Marketing Alliance and became an active member as a business owner because of the perceived and real problem with parking in Hanover. She is probably the smallest business in Hanover and she feels that they have made progress in the last year and a half. She has been amazed at how much Patrick O'Neill and the Parking Department knows about who is parking where, etc. She noted that she and Peggy Stadler from Designer Gold did the most in talking to the businesses to try to gather data about employees. They need support for gathering this kind of information.

Bill Barr stated that this is a large task and the PTB members can't do their day jobs and get this done. Lt. O'Neill noted that last year in discussions with regards to the Parking Fund, the Board encumbered \$42,000 related to employee accessibility so this could be where they could find \$25,000 for a consultant.

Vice Chairman Connolly expressed concern about keeping enough parking for shoppers and hopes that when they are doing the study that they focus on the numbers that already exist. Vice Chairman Connolly stated that the change in making 2 hour parking to 10 hour parking did nothing but provide Dartmouth with more parking. She worries that they may have happy employees but empty shops and this is an increasing concern. Mr. Baschnagel stated that he has the same concern. They've got to find other ways to address the needs and they need to find out the nature of their needs and that's what this is really about. It's not about reducing the number of metered parking spaces.

Selectman Doherty stated that she recalled that in the last year Lt. O'Neill came forward with proposals about buses for employees and studies for various local and offsite parking and there was sufficient data to indicate that it wouldn't work.

Lt. O'Neill stated that there was a period of time that they discussed using the leased area of the parking garage for employee parking. One of the major employers was Molly's and they determined that the employees weren't going to use those spaces.

Ms. Rebman stated when they were working on the parking analysis, they came to the realization that a lot of people are keeping spaces and though not doing anything illegal, they park in the late afternoon and work the evening shift when it is after hours for the meters. They also determined that they really knew very little about the employees and their various shifts and situations.

Selectman Doherty stated that in her time on the Select Board, parking comes up many times. She feels that there are tremendous benefits in hiring consultants but her concern is that due to the complexity of this issue, the Boards need to set realistic boundaries about funding and timeframe. They need to hire someone who takes the data collected with the result of some well researched recommendations that would fit the needs of the community. Selectman Doherty stated that she is concerned about being shortsighted in throwing a number like \$25,000 and the short timeframe of having solutions by the spring; there might be unintended consequences or the study might not address all the needs of the business owners, employees and patrons. She feels that they don't have enough information about how much to fund and the timeframe needed.

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Chairman Walsh stated that the amount of \$25,000 for a survey strikes him as being a lot of money. If the \$25,000 was being used for an analysis with results of possible solutions then that would be supported. He wants more than just a survey; he wants a set of analyzed options for action.

Mr. Baschnagel stated that the proposal is to have recommendations and not just a survey. He noted that in other processes that he has been involved in for similar kinds of consulting it involved putting together a statement of work, identifying the available funds and then people get back to you and educate you on the possibilities if the amount is not in line with the work being requested. Consultants will be able to come up with an estimate for costs, etc. The Board would then find out if the \$25,000 is reasonable or unreasonable. He feels that one of the key elements is finding someone in the field to bring experience from other communities and there are a lot of consultants who work in this area.

Mr. Barr stated that it might end up that when you go for a Request for Proposal you may determine that it will cost more money. The PTB may then come back to the Board with a proposal number.

Selectman Doherty stated she likes the discovery process with an RFP. She clarified with the Board that their approach is to commit to \$25,000 and if need be, they would come back for more funds. She stated that she would be more comfortable with a funding range but to commit funds prior to knowing what they are committing to, doesn't sound like a good practice.

Ms. Griffin stated that the PTB appropriated \$42,000 to deal with some of the issues surrounding downtown employee parking so they have that money available. The PTB is feeling that they need to use some of this money to hire a consultant to assist in coming up with solutions. The next step sounds like the staff would work with the PTB to develop the scope of work and discuss it with the Planning Board and it may coordinate with the parking study analysis being done with the Hanover Inn Project. The scope will give them an RFP and they may find out that \$25,000 is more than enough or not; there are some checkpoints along the way and it's not just a blank check to take this on.

Mr. Baschnagel hadn't thought about bringing the statement of the work back to the Board. He stated that to the best of his knowledge, no one from the PTB has any idea what it going on with the Hanover Inn project but he is concerned that they need to move this along. His experience is that once the scope of work is put out there, they will get responsible feedback from people who work in this area. Ms. Griffin stated that her feeling is that they could have a scope for the work in 30 days and out on the street 2 weeks later.

Selectman Christie clarified that the money is available. Mr. Baschnagel stated that they are also looking for staff support.

Selectman Rassias clarified that since the money is already appropriated, they don't need to go to Town Meeting. Chairman Walsh stated that the money was appropriated to take action to deal with the parking problem and not to study the problem. The Board is supportive of investing some amount of money and gaining quantitative understanding of what the need is and analyzed

options for actions. The Board is not supportive of spending \$25,000 for a survey and then funding additional money to find out possible solutions beyond that.

Chairman Walsh stated that the Board is very supportive of the PTB's work and to spend some money to make a real difference. Selectman Christie noted that the PTB did reference in their memo what would constitute acceptable alternatives so they are looking to come up with a survey and alternatives. Chairman Walsh stated that these alternatives would need to be acceptable not only to employees as listed in the memo but to others as well including shoppers.

### **3. DISCUSSION REGARDING STATUS OF DOWNTOWN MARKETING ALLIANCE.**

Chairman Walsh reported that the Downtown Marketing Alliance (DMA) is no longer and the Hanover Area Chamber of Commerce Board has decided not to fill that void. Ms. Griffin stated that the Town has just under \$17,000 in funds remaining that were carried over from the fiscal year that ended June 30<sup>th</sup>. There is \$25,000 in this year's budget to be taxed and the recommendation is not to go forward in assessing the Business Improvement District Tax because the DMA will no longer exist to utilize the funds.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED that the Town not assess the \$25,000 from this year's budget for the Downtown Marketing Alliance. Selectman Doherty SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY THAT THE TOWN NOT ASSESS THE \$25,000 FROM THIS YEAR'S BUDGET FOR THE DOWNTOWN MARKETING ALLIANCE.**

Chairman Walsh stated that it is without precedence to return tax money. Ms. Griffin stated that Betsy McClain checked with the Local Government Center (LGC) attorney and was advised to check in with Town Counsel (Walter Mitchell) to confirm that they didn't see any issues such as a business that may have changed owners in the past 12 months. They need to work through this and one alternative is to reimburse the downtown businesses.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that separate from the DMA account is a request for specific expenditures from the account. Ms. Griffin stated that the expenditures have been taken care of. She noted that there are competing views within the DMA. Some people would like for the money to be spent on a couple of projects that the DMA was unable to complete; a downtown map and a downtown business directory. Ms. Griffin stated that the only people that could do that would be Town staff and that's not in their scope of work for this coming year. The DMA left it up to the Town if they wanted to use the funds to do good marketing things and the Chamber is not interested in taking on the funds in order to market downtown because not every business downtown is a Chamber member. The Chamber exists to serve its members. Ms. Griffin stated that the request is to refund the money to downtown business owners who paid the tax in the previous fiscal year.

Vice Chairman Connolly confirmed that it is unknown whether they can legally do that. Ms. Griffin stated that Betsy McClain will be checking with the Town's attorney and should have an answer very soon. Ms. Griffin stated that they needed confirmation from the Select Board that



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subject to the Town attorney's opinion, the Board feels it's okay. Selectman Christie feels that the Town cannot take on the additional work and the Town should refund the money assuming that they are allowed to do so.

Jim Rubens stated that he is the founder and one-time Chairman of the former DMA and current Chairman of the Selectmen's Advisory Committee. He stated that under State Law the Selectman's Advisory Committee met earlier this year and after lengthy discussions they tried to hand the \$25,000/year to the Chamber and the Chamber determined they did not want to manage the operation. The Committee decided that if the Chamber did not want it, the recommendation was that they have the money go back to the taxpayers in the form of a check or as an amount off the tax bill in December. Vice Chairman Connolly felt that taking the money off the tax bill would be preferred.

Ms. Griffin stated that with the DMA dissolved, StreetFest will likely be gone as well. StreetFest used to be run by the Chamber of Commerce for many years but ceased doing so a few years ago. The DMA has funded an event organizer to coordinate StreetFest for the last several years using the tax proceeds. There is some desire on the Chamber's part to look at an alternative event and some people hope that they could hold on to the \$17,000 in case another entity wants to come forward to take over StreetFest next summer. The Town would not appropriate another \$25,000 for this but the discussion is to just hold on to the amount remaining.

Chairman Walsh would like to revisit this issue December 1<sup>st</sup>. He is generally against it and is leaning toward the money going toward something else. Chairman Walsh asked if they need a motion to release the Selectman's Advisory Committee and formally disband the DMA. Ms. Griffin stated that she doesn't believe that they do. Ms. Griffin stated that Town Meeting decided to create the Downtown Business Service District as a tax vehicle and appropriated the tax assessment to fund it at \$25,000. As long as they are not collecting funds for the Downtown Business Service District, the Selectman's Advisory Committee does not need to exist. Chairman Walsh would like further investigation into this because leaving things in existence leads to confusion.

Mr. Rubens stated that the Selectmen's Advisory Committee (SAC) is required by State law to advise the Select Board regarding the expenditure of funds. The SAC unanimously agreed that the money should be returned to the taxpayer if the Chamber of Commerce did not wish to take over the DMA. If the Select Board is going to reignite the process and spend money, they should be considering advice from the SAC.

Selectman Doherty clarified with Ms. Griffin that the money that was taxed came from the businesses and not the resident taxpayers.

Chairman Walsh stated that there was a parking district which the Town used to levy a parking fee on which was an important part of the financing for the downtown Parking Garage. As the garage got on its feet and there was a desire for a marketing effort downtown, the Town cut out the parking tax and have essentially allowed the money (originally \$50,000) to go to the

Downtown Marketing Alliance. He would like to see a history of the downtown parking assessment and when the DMA phased in.

Mr. Baschnagel stated that the Parking District is embodied in the Town Charter so it's a different legal entity than the Downtown Marketing District so it might be a factor. Chairman Walsh would like to look at all of the pieces of this so they can eliminate the areas that are no longer needed.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that she would not want to see StreetFest evaporate. Chairman Walsh stated that it is his opinion that this is not the Select Board's function. Ms. Griffin stated that it will be interesting to see if someone rises up to keep that event going.

**4. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE DARTMOUTH COLLEGE LETTER ABOUT USE OF DARTMOUTH DOCKS BY HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL CREW TEAM.**

Chairman Walsh stated that the Board of Selectmen received a letter from Dartmouth College regarding the use of their docks. He stated that he was hoping it would be another three years before Dartmouth would get to the point where they felt that they couldn't support the High School Crew team on their docks.

Selectman Christie stated that he found this letter consistent with previous statements made about the reality for the continued multiple use of the docks. He recalled that the Board previously had been supportive of using Wilson's Landing for the Hanover High School program but not of like mind to potentially using it beyond the high school. He wanted to take a vote 'to reaffirm the Select Board's support subject to normal federal, state and local review requirements for the use of Wilson's Landing for a dock to be used by the general public and the Hanover High School Rowing Program and other community uses as may be licensed by the Town Select Board' because he felt that reflects his memory of where the Board was and encouraged everyone to move on with the process needed to either affirm or not affirm the use of Wilson's Landing for this purpose.

**Selectman Christie MOVED to reaffirm the Select Board's support (subject to normal federal, state and local review requirements) for the use of Wilson's Landing for a dock to be used by the general public and the Hanover High School Rowing Program and other community uses as may be licensed by the Town Select Board. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

Selectman Rassias stated that the Board's initial vote to support this was not something that was done lightly and was done after hours and hours of listening to testimony. He stated that the Select Board's stance was that they are not the last word on planning, zoning and conservation issues but it was more to support the application based on their purview and looking out for the best interests of the Town.

Selectman Doherty stated that their other commitment at the time was to address concerns over the process. As they have heard input questioning the process, they need to review that matter

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and it is separate from the application. Selectman Doherty stated that the reaffirmation is one thing but questions about the process need to be addressed.

Selectman Christie stated that the motion is a reaffirmation subject to the normal review process and ultimately coming back to the Select Board for licensing with whatever restrictions the Select Board decides to add. Selectman Christie stated that he feels that the letter is a wake-up call that the time is ticking.

Chairman Walsh wanted to amend the motion to include language that shows that the terms and restrictions are set by the Select Board after all of the other reviews. Chairman Walsh stated that he would vote against the motion if it did not include language that makes it clear that the Select Board has the final review to make the final determinations regarding what the restrictions will be.

Selectman Rassias asked if this was part of the legal process anyway. Chairman Walsh could imagine in the future that the Select Board would be tasked with making decisions regarding time, numbers, etc. He wants to make it clear that this responsibility remains with the Select Board.

Selectman Christie offered the following amendment to the motion: Final licensing for the use will be determined by the Select Board.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that the applications still have to go before the Zoning and Planning Boards. Chairman Walsh stated that the Zoning and Planning Boards have very specific things that they can or cannot require as well as all other areas of review. The Select Board can set whatever other conditions that they want with regard to the use as part of the license which no one else could. He doesn't want anyone to be mistaken that they are abdicating that responsibility. Vice Chairman Connolly stated that the authority goes back to the Select Board. Chairman Walsh wants the Select Board's authority to be clear. Selectman Rassias clarified that the amendment is not adding anything that isn't already in place. Chairman Walsh stated that he just wanted it stated so that in the future, it is very clear.

Selectman Christie and Chairman Walsh worked out the rest of the amendment.

**Selectman Christie MOVED to reaffirm the Select Board's support (subject to normal Federal, State and local review requirements) of the use of Wilson's Landing for a dock to be used by the general public and the Hanover High School rowing program and other community uses as may be licensed by the Select Board. Final licensing terms and restrictions for the Hanover High School Crew program or any other proposed program are to be determined by the Select Board. Selectman Doherty SECONDED the amendment to the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR TO REAFFIRM THE SELECT BOARD'S SUPPORT (SUBJECT TO NORMAL FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL REVIEW REQUIREMENTS) OF THE USE OF WILSON'S LANDING FOR A DOCK TO BE USED BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND THE HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL**

**ROWING PROGRAM AND OTHER COMMUNITY USES AS MAY BE LICENSED BY THE SELECT BOARD. FINAL LICENSING TERMS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR THE HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL CREW PROGRAM OR ANY OTHER PROPOSED PROGRAM ARE TO BE DETERMINED BY THE SELECT BOARD.**

**5. RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT PETER CHRISTIE AS SHAREHOLDER REPRESENTING THE TOWN FOR THE ANNUAL TRECSCOTT COMPANY SHAREHOLDERS MEETING.**

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to authorize Peter Christie to represent the Town of Hanover at the annual stockholders meeting of the Trescott Company and to vote its shares on all matters that might come before the meeting. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE PETER CHRISTIE TO REPRESENT THE TOWN OF HANOVER AT THE ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS MEETING OF THE TRECSCOTT COMPANY AND TO VOTE ITS SHARES ON ALL MATTERS THAT MIGHT COME BEFORE THE MEETING.**

Ms. Griffin noted that the Shareholder meeting is tomorrow evening at 7 p.m. in the Boardroom at Town Hall.

**6. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT REVISED INVESTMENT POLICY.**

Ms. Griffin stated that the last time that the policy was reviewed, Selectman Christie was not present. Ms. Griffin noted that there were some recommended changes to the policy.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to adopt the revised investment policy. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE REVISED INVESTMENT POLICY.**

**7. REVIEW OF PROPOSED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR FY2011-12.**

Chairman Walsh reviewed the list of Goals and Objectives for FY2011-2012.

Chairman Walsh wanted to change the wording regarding the Capital Improvements Program. Instead of 'further refine the draft' he wanted to see 'To Consider and Adopt the Draft Capital Improvements Program.' The Board removed two items that had previously been stricken from the goals list (support for the Sustainable Hanover Committee and Affordable Housing Commission) as they are on-going efforts and not a current goal.

Chairman Walsh wanted the goal to support Dartmouth College in their efforts to reduce excess alcohol consumption and sexual assault on campus to stay on the list for at least one more year.

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Selectman Christie noted that the goal regarding assessing the need for the Boards and Commissions and cultivating volunteerism are two very separate goals. Selectman Christie felt that they needed to discuss whether they really needed to review the Town Charter with regard to each Board and Commission. Chairman Walsh noted that another goal was to have each Board and Commission meet once a year with the Select Board to receive a status report of their ongoing effort. Selectman Christie suggested having an objective to meet with each Board and Commission once a year and have another goal to work toward the volunteer cultivation process. Selectman Doherty felt that having the Boards and Commissions come before the Select Board is a good first step and out of that process, the Select Board can determine the needs and then work toward the second goal of volunteer cultivation and engagement.

Selectman Rassias wanted to see a list of the purpose of each committee. Ms. Griffin advised that this information could be put together.

Selectman Christie asked if there might be a purpose to having an on-going goals and objectives list such as the 6 things the Board wants to focus on each year. He noted that the Board previously discussed their on-going work but to highlight the top 6 things might be a useful reminder year-to-year.

Chairman Walsh stated that he was hesitant because the question comes down to where do you stop but felt that having one-liners for some of these things might be of some value. Selectman Christie stated that it wouldn't be something that is 20 pages long. Chairman Walsh felt that they could take a stab at making a list.

Selectman Doherty felt that the list would be inclusive of the things that were taken off the Goals and Objectives list since they were considered on-going business. Selectman Christie stated that the list would include items that the Board is legally required to do, on-going commitments, (obligation to provide staff support, nominate board members, etc.) and there may be a few things like that worth documenting.

Vice Chairman Connolly wanted to see on-going efforts of trying to get Fiber through the town kept on the Goals and Objectives list. Chairman Walsh was fine with this being an Administrative Goal.

The Board moved on to review the Goals and Objectives for Administration.

The Board did not have any changes regarding the goal for the Total Compensation Policy. Chairman Walsh moved on to the next goal pertaining to the budget process and the challenge to Department Heads. Selectman Christie's challenge was to have the Department Heads look at initiatives that could be funded by reducing costs within the department beyond what they would be required to do to meet budget objectives.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the goal regarding the Etna Library and the goal to create handicap access to the entrance and restrooms and the accompanying parking area, etc. Chairman Walsh suggested having the fundraising strategies before the creation of the expansion.

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Chairman Walsh stated that the number of Trustees of the Etna Library are established by varying factors but they should review whether 3 is the correct number; it's a large responsibility for a small group.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the goal regarding the bike lane work on North Park Street and South Park Street. Ms. Griffin noted that South Park Street is being worked on now. Selectman Rassias confirmed that the funding is there for both projects. Ms. Griffin stated that they have the funding and it is on the list because it is an upcoming piece of the project and it keeps people informed that this is something they are working on.

Chairman Walsh thought that the Board should look at the design for the North Park Street part of the project because it's been a while since they've seen the project proposal. He wanted to have the design of the project included as well.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the Inter Municipal Agreement with the City of Lebanon and the Board had no changes or suggestions.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the goal regarding providing the Select Board with a second draft of simple complaint driven rental housing inspection and licensing program ordinance for review. Chairman Walsh stated that he would like to see this in a timely manner for Town Meeting. This is not something that the Select Board will want to deal with during the budget process and Pre-Town Meeting public hearing. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the document has been prepared. Selectman Christie suggested changing the wording to remove "second draft."

Ms. Griffin stated that two items added to the list is a Town Ordinance review to reflect changes in state legislation. The other is to update the Personnel Rules and Regulations to reflect changes in state and federal law.

Ms. Griffin noted that she will get the goals back to the Board for next week's meeting.

**8. BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:**

- Affordable Housing Commission
- Parking & Transportation Board
- Parks & Recreation Board
- Planning Board
- Senior Citizen Advisory Committee
- Sustainable Hanover Committee
- Zoning Board of Adjustment
- UVLSRPC

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint the following people to the following Boards and Commissions:**

**Affordable Housing Commission**

**Paul Olsen, Regular Member, September 2012 (reappointment)**

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**Andrew Winter, Regular Member, September 2014 (reappointment)**

**Parking & Transportation Board**

**Bill Barr, September 2014 (reappointment)**

**Richard Brannen, September 2014 (reappointment)**

**Parks & Recreation Board**

**David Parsons, September 2012 (reappointment – Brauch’s unexpired 1 yr. term)**

**Darlene Roach – Branche, September, 2014 (new appointment)**

**Amy Vienna, September 2014 (new appointment)**

**Planning Board**

**Jim Hornig, Full Member, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Michael Mayor, Full Member, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Senior Citizen Advisory Committee**

**Marilyn Blodgett, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Shirley Montgomery, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Nancy Pierce, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Sustainable Hanover Committee**

**MaryAnn Cadwallader, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Zoning Board of Adjustment**

**Arthur Gardiner, Full Member, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Carolyn Radisch, Full Member, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission**

**Joanna Whitcomb**

**Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT THE AFOREMENTIONED PEOPLE TO THE VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.**

**9. BANNER REQUESTS:**

- Revels North

Chairman Walsh confirmed with Ms. Griffin that they can accommodate the request.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Banner Request of Revels North. Selectman Doherty SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF REVELS NORTH.**

**10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- September 12, 2011

The Approval of the Minutes of September 12, 2011 was deferred until the next meeting.

## **11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin asked Ms. Levine to speak about the Pig and Wolf Auction. Ms. Levine stated that the auction was a great success. She noted that all 20 Pigs and Wolves were sold. The statue “When Pigs Fly” by Robin Nuse was sold for \$21,000 to a gentleman in NYC whose daughter is a freshman at Dartmouth College. The others averaged in price between \$1,000 and \$2,000. This event brought in over \$45,000 for the Parks & Recreation Department. The volunteers that organized this did a fantastic job.

Chairman Walsh noted that he was approached by a few people in town who felt that the Town should try to buy the Gary Hamel Pig and Wolf that depicted the history of the Town. There were funds left over from the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Fund so Chairman Walsh bid on behalf of the Town and won the statues.

Ms. Griffin stated that staff is beginning to talk with Grafton County who are trying to offer their own county wide dispatch service. She stated that Hanover is trying to get a handle on what a Grafton county wide dispatch would look like. Hanover operates a regional dispatch center serving 22 communities in both Vermont and New Hampshire. The bond for the Dispatch console is paid for by the fees charged to the communities that the Center dispatches for. Ms. Griffin stated that Grafton sent out a survey and she originally thought they would respond to the survey but she has requested a meeting after speaking with staff. There are concerns about where this is going and could potentially “cannibalize” the Hanover Dispatch Center by taking away contributing towns. Part of the concern is that the County might offer a county wide dispatch service and charge each town for it, even charging towns that don’t use the service. She is going to get Commissioner Cryans involved in this discussion as well. The County is trying to find money too and it’s a strange position to be in to compete with the County for towns to serve.

Selectman Christie wanted to know if the County has the authority to mandate charges to the Towns in Grafton that are not using their service. Ms. Levine stated that they could try to undercut the Hanover Dispatch Center. Ms. Griffin stated that she didn’t know whether they could charge towns that don’t use the service. Selectman Christie would like to head this off at the pass and find out if the County can legally do this and if they can’t, they should be informed of that. Ms. Griffin noted that this issue came up in the spring and the Town sent a letter and never received a response; now this survey comes forward.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that previous discussions indicated that the Town of Hanover would have to pay. Ms. Griffin stated that the County is also looking at expanding their services beyond governmental entities. Ms. Levine noted that Merrimack County tried to do something similar and it didn’t go anywhere.

## **12. SELECTMEN’S REPORTS.**

### **Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie had nothing new to report.



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**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board met and there will be a new building at 31 South Park Street; a 3 story building with a dentist office on the first floor and two residential floors.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the University of New Hampshire announced that they were going to add to their tower on Moose Mountain which may be part of the middle mile fiber project.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board handled a subdivision on Balch Hill. The Planning Board also took a stroll through Downtown to look at all of the accomplishments for the past 10 years. There were no less than 26 separate cases over the past decade; some being large, like the South Street Hotel and while they were out and about she noted how nice and open it is in the Downtown area.

**Judy Doherty**

Selectman Doherty reported that the Affordable Housing Commission met on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> and they continue to talk about a variety of ways that housing options can be exercised in the area. The Affordable Housing Commission meets again on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Selectman Doherty reported that the Howe Library Trustees of the Howe Library Corporation met on Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> and had a full agenda including a recap of activities that happened over the summer. The Howe Corporation's Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> refreshments from 3 to 3:30 with the Annual Meeting starting at 3:30 and typically runs until around 5 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias reported that the Conservation Commission met last week. The largest item on the agenda was the review of two applications to the ZBA from the Friends of Hanover Crew. The Conservation Commission came out with advisory comments to send along to the ZBA with regard to those two applications; one application is for the sheds and the other is for the dock itself.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh reported that the Hanover Sustainability Committee met last Wednesday which he did not attend. Ms. Griffin stated that she attended and the Committee is looking for a couple of additional members. They talked about a number of initiatives including food composting projects which is now implemented at the elementary school. They are now looking at a pilot program to be used at local restaurants. The subcommittee of Sustainable Hanover will be working on that initiative. The meeting was their fall kickoff organizational meeting.

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Chairman Walsh would like to find a way to honor the 6<sup>th</sup> graders trying to teach the rest of the Middle School to compost. Ms. Griffin stated that when they toured the facility in Montpelier, Vermont they learned that they really need to start the programs in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade and rumor has it that things are going very well at the Middle School thanks to a grant from the Byrne Foundation which is funding the pilot program using consultants from the Vermont program.

Chairman Walsh reported that the Hanover Conservation Council is now the Hanover Conservancy and they had a celebration yesterday for the 50 years of wonderful work they have done for the Town. Ms. Griffin stated that they honored Vicki Smith, Jeanie McIntyre and Bob Norman and it was a really nice community celebration at the top of Balch Hill with a gathering of about 100 people.

**13. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business reported.

**14. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Selectman Doherty MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:45 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith A. Doherty, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED that the Town not assess the \$25,000 from this year's budget for the Downtown Marketing Alliance. Selectman Doherty SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY THAT THE TOWN NOT ASSESS THE \$25,000 FROM THIS YEAR'S BUDGET FOR THE DOWNTOWN MARKETING ALLIANCE.**

2. **Selectman Christie MOVED to reaffirm the Select Board's support (subject to normal Federal, State and local review requirements) of the use of Wilson's Landing for a dock to be used by the general public and the Hanover High School rowing program and other community uses as may be licensed by the Select Board. Final licensing terms and restrictions for the Hanover High School Crew program or any other proposed program are to be determined by the Select Board. Selectman Doherty SECONDED the amendment to the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR TO REAFFIRM THE SELECT BOARD'S SUPPORT (SUBJECT TO NORMAL FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL REVIEW REQUIREMENTS) OF THE USE OF WILSON'S LANDING FOR A DOCK TO BE USED BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND THE HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL ROWING PROGRAM AND OTHER COMMUNITY USES AS MAY BE LICENSED BY THE SELECT BOARD. FINAL LICENSING TERMS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR THE HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL CREW PROGRAM OR ANY OTHER PROPOSED PROGRAM ARE TO BE DETERMINED BY THE SELECT BOARD.**

3. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to authorize Peter Christie to represent the Town of Hanover at the annual stockholders meeting of the Trescott Company and to vote its shares on all matters that might come before the meeting. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE PETER CHRISTIE TO REPRESENT THE TOWN OF HANOVER AT THE ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS MEETING OF THE TRESCOTT COMPANY AND TO VOTE ITS SHARES ON ALL MATTERS THAT MIGHT COME BEFORE THE MEETING.**

4. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to adopt the revised investment policy. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE REVISED INVESTMENT POLICY.**

5. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint the following people to the following Boards and Commissions:**

**Affordable Housing Commission**

**Paul Olsen, Regular Member, September 2012 (reappointment)**

**Andrew Winter, Regular Member, September 2014 (reappointment)**

**Parking & Transportation Board**

**Bill Barr, September 2014 (reappointment)**

**Richard Brannen, September 2014 (reappointment)**

**Parks & Recreation Board**

**David Parsons, September 2012 (reappointment – Brauch’s unexpired 1 yr. term)**

**Darlene Roach – Branche, September, 2014 (new appointment)**

**Amy Vienna, September 2014 (new appointment)**

**Planning Board**

**Jim Hornig, Full Member, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Michael Mayor, Full Member, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Senior Citizen Advisory Committee**

**Marilyn Blodgett, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Shirley Montgomery, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Nancy Pierce, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Sustainable Hanover Committee**

**MaryAnn Cadwallader, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Zoning Board of Adjustment**

**Arthur Gardiner, Full Member, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Carolyn Radisch, Full Member, September, 2014 (reappointment)**

**Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission**

**Joanna Whitcomb**

**Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT THE AFOREMENTIONED PEOPLE TO THE VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.**

6. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Banner Request of Revels North. Selectman Doherty SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF REVELS NORTH.**

7. **Selectman Doherty MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:45 P.M.**