

Meeting of the
Hillsborough County Master Plan Committee

April 27, 2007
Bouchard Building, Goffstown, NH

Minutes of the Public Session
(Not Official until Approved by vote of the Committee and signed by the Recorder)

Present: Comm. C. Holden, M. Castagne, F. Plett, L. Calawa, L. Kaiser, R. Sawyer, A. Renzullo, D. Essex, D. Reidy, S. Griffin, G. Wenger, and R. Pomroy.

Comm. Holden called the Meeting to order at 8:21 A.M.

1. Welcome

Comm. Holden informed the Committee that J. Nute of the UNH Cooperative Extension would be conducting a walk on the County's property along the Piscataquis River on Saturday May 5 at 9: A.M. and all are invited. She also advised the Committee that the Hillsborough Conservation District is holding its annual meeting, Everything That You Need to Knot about Preserving Your Land, on May 3, 2007 at the Milford Town Hall from 6:30 to 9:00. Committee members, guests, and members of the public introduced themselves.

2. S. Griffin, Town Of Goffstown Planning & Economic Development Coordinator

Comm. Holden introduced S. Griffin from the Town of Goffstown, noting that Mr. Griffin is the Planning & Economic Development Coordinator for the Town and has been very helpful assisting the County over the years. S. Griffin proceeded to share a map of the County's lands with the Committee. He explained that the map was prepared from information maintained by the Town. He explained the efforts that Goffstown has undertaken to study the Route 114-114A corridor and to update the Town's Master Plan. Mr. Griffin explained that the Town of Goffstown has been looking for ways to increase its tax base noting that there appears to be little opportunity in the community for commercial/industrial developments due in large part to limited flat lands. He also discussed transportation routes through the community and the nature of the travel along those routes explaining that Routes 114 and 114A are the primary travel corridors and are commuter routes. He provided the Committee members with a copy of the Town Master Plan noting that it included the Corridor Study. He explained that the community has been looking at the Corridor Study as an opportunity to plan development twenty years out through the Village Center and Pinardville and off Route 114 and 114A and to address transportation and development issues. He explained that Goffstown, as it looks out is seeking to concentrate development, in terms of density, along the transportation routs. A discussion followed regarding the various parcels that make up the County's lands, the opportunities that the Rails-to-Trials and transportation corridors provide, the potential for connecting to existing infrastructure, and the impact of activity on surrounding lands and surrounding lands on the County. S. Griffin explained that Goffstown has identified a need for additional recreational fields. He explained that one of the largest fields utilized by the Town is privately owned and may be lost at some point. Comm. Holden suggested that as the Committee looks forward consideration of the impact on the taxpayer and efforts to reduce the impact of the County on the taxpayer will be important.

The Committee turned its discussion to the scope of the issues before it and the need to bring stakeholders into to process and to gain acceptance for a plan. Comm. Holden provided an overview of the County's approval process for any action related to the use of County land. She explained that the Committee has been asked to look at the big picture and to come up with a recommendation that will be presented to the Board of Commissioners for adoption. She stated that the plan will be shared with the Executive Committee and Delegation and that any action to be taken because of the recommendation will require Board approval, Executive Committee approval and Delegation approval. The Committee discussed the timing of development and the impact that development on other similarly situated parcels in the Greater Manchester area will have on

the opportunities that the County may have for commercial/industrial, residential, including workforce housing, and commercial projects.

Mr. Griffin thanked the Committee for the opportunity to speak to it and offered his assistance as it progressed with its work. Comm. Holden, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Mr. Griffin for his presentation and copies of the Master Plan and agreed to follow-up with him as the group progressed.

3. Other Business

The Committee briefly reviewed the materials provided by Mr. Griffin and discussed information that it required as it moved forward. The Committee again discussed, identifying stakeholders, seeking community and stakeholder input, identifying soil and wetlands, and identifying the County's future space and land needs. The desirability of hiring a consultant to assist the Committee with gathering and interpreting information was discussed.

4. Adjourn

There being nothing further to come before the Committee at this time the meeting adjourned at 9:24 A.M.

Gregory J. Wenger, Recorder

Date

Next meeting: 8:30 A.M. May 11, 2007.